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Generic Unknowns Estimator for aircraft Structural Sizing

GUESS

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Preface

This document constitutes a summary of work for eligibility of a MSc degree from the Department of Aerospace Engineering, Politecnico di Milano (POLIMI), Italy, and Department of Aeronautics (Flygteknik), Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Stockholm, Sweden.

The work has been performed over the period of one year, from September 2007 to October 2008. It is with great fortune I have had the opportunity to join the the 6th European Framework SimSAC for preliminary structural sizing and aeroelastic analysis for fixed-wing aircrafts. During the time I spent giving my own contribution to the project, I had the opportunity to meet excellent persons and accomplishing professional and pedagogical abilities.

Expressions of gratitude are forwarded to my supervisor Professor Sergio Ricci (POLIMI) and Arthur Rizzi (KTH) for their invaluable advice and insight during the course of this degree. I have to recognize the helps given by several PhD students, just to remember some of them: Luca Cavagna (POLIMI), Adrien Berard (KTH) and last, but not least, Simone Crippa (KTH). After the work performed within the project, I decided to apply for a PhD position. It is with great happiness that I will move in University of Liverpool, UK, to became a PhD student with Professor Badcock, K.J.

A final word of profound thanks goes to my family for the untold amount of patience, understanding and support exhibited by them during the protracted period of accomplishing this milestone.

Italy
October 2008
Andrea Da Ronch

Introduction

The present document introduces two softwares developed under the 6th European Framework SimSAC for preliminary structural sizing and aeroelastic analysis for fixed-wing aircrafts. The former is called GUESS, for structural sizing computations, and the latter deals with the Doublet-Lattice Method (DLM) for aerodynamic calculations. These computer codes are gathered together under the software NeoCASS developed by Dipartimento di Ingegneria Aerospaziale - Politecnico di Milano (POLIMI). The software is a numeric analysis tool particularly suited to conceptual and preliminary design of aircrafts. Its main purpose is to enhance these early design phases with details regarding bearing airframe which is usually poorly represented by the sole structural weight coming from empirical formulas.

The software helps indeed the designer to size structure of the aircraft under development and to investigate its aeroelastic behaviour by means of structural and aerodynamic numerical methods having physical basis. Thus, statistical formulas, usually characterized by poorness of details and accuracy are overcome so that the code can even be to design innovative and uncommon aircraft layouts.

The thesis work has met the necessity to provide the following feature to the software NeoCASS, giving its contribution as reported below:

- analytical structural sizing at different maneuvering flights and ground taxing coming from NASA-PDCYL code [1]; this first solution is merely used as *guess* and starting point for the different numerical aeroelastic solvers (the thesis work has provided this feature);
- linear/non-linear beam elements with distributed and lumped masses for efficient structural analyses of high-aspect ratio airframes [2; 3];
- linear equivalent plate elements [4; 5] with distributed and lumped masses for efficient structural analyses of low-aspect ratio airframes;
- Vortex Lattice Method (VLM) [6] for steady subsonic aeroelastic analyses developed starting from Tornado code [7];
- Doublet Lattice Method (DLM) [8] for oscillatory subsonic stability derivatives and Aerodynamic Influence Coefficients (AIC) matrix calculation required for flutter assessment (the thesis work has provided this feature);
- Moving Least Squares (MLS) [9] and Radial Basis Functions (RBF) [10] spatial coupling methods for data transfer between non-matching structural and aerodynamic meshes
- vibration modes solver (results are exported in FFA-format files for Edge [11] CFD solver when high-fidelity aeroelasticity is required);
- flutter solver to efficiently assess flutter (and divergence) instabilities in the whole flight envelope
- static aeroelastic analyses for deformed flight shape calculation.

Chapter 1

GUESS : Generic Unknowns Estimator in Structural Sizing

This chapter introduces the GUESS module for analytical sizing of a complete airframe. GUESS is used to improve the prediction of structural weight relying on a method with somewhat physical basis. Furthermore, a stick beam model is determined from the calculated analytical solution to be used by the numerical aero-structural module SMARTCAD .

1.1 Airframe analytical guess solution

NeoCASS provides a method based on fundamental structural principle for estimating the load-bearing airframe for fuselage and lifting surfaces.

This method is particularly useful in the preliminary weight estimation of aircraft since it represents a compromise between the rapid assessment of component weight using empirical methods, based on actual weights of existing aircraft, and detailed but time-consuming finite-element analysis. Both methods have particular advantages but also limitations which make them not completely suitable for the preliminary design phase. The empirical approach is the simplest weight estimation tool, which requires the knowledge of fuselage and wing weights from a number of similar existing aircraft in order to produce a linear regression useful to derive the data required for the aircraft to be designed. Obviously, the accuracy of this method depends upon the quality and quantity of available data for existing aircraft and how much closely the aircraft under investigation matches them. Thus, this approach is inappropriate for studies of unconventional aircraft concepts for two reasons:

- since the weight estimating formulas are based on existing aircraft, their application to unconventional configuration (i.e., canard aircraft) is suspect;
- the impact of advanced technologies and materials (i.e., advanced composite laminates) cannot be assessed in a straightforward way.

Continuum structures, as fuselages or wings, which would use some combination of solid, flat plate or shell finite elements, are not easily discretizable and the solution of even a moderately complex model like an aircraft is computationally intensive and can become a bottleneck in the vehicle synthesis.

Finite-element methods, commonly used in aircraft detailed design, are not appropriate for conceptual design, as the idealized structure model must be built off-line and many details are missing in such a premature phase. The following two approaches which may simplify the finite-element model also have drawbacks. The first aims at creating detailed analysis models at a few critical locations on the fuselage and wing, to successively extrapolate the results to the entire aircraft. This approach can be misleading because of the great variety of structural, load and geometric characteristics in a typical design.

The second approach aims instead to creating a coarse model of the aircraft, but this scheme may miss key loading and stress concentrations.

An alternative approach exists and it is based on beam theory. The work was originally performed by Ardema and al. and presented as structural sizing tool for fuselage and wing (briefly described in Reference [1]). This results in a weight estimate which is directly driven by material properties, load conditions, and vehicle size and shape, thus being not confined to an existing data base.

NeoCASS starts from this last approach and extends it to the sizing of horizontal and vertical tail planes to have a complete view of the airframe for the whole aircraft. All the improvements included in the present version of GUESS, indeed not defined in the already given reference [1], will be outlined in the following sections.

The distribution of loads and vehicle geometry is accounted for, since the analysis is done station-by-station along the vehicle longitudinal axis and along the lifting surface

structural chord, giving an integrated weight which depends on local conditions. Nevertheless, an analysis based solely on fundamental principles will give an accurate estimate of structural weight only. Thus, weights for fuselage and lifting surfaces secondary structure (including control surfaces and leading and trailing edges) and items from primary structure (such as doublers, cutouts and fasteners) must be estimated by a correlation to existing aircraft.

In the following sections, all the steps required to obtain fuselage and lifting surfaces weight estimations are presented. References to some of the parameters which drive the execution of the tool are also made.

1.2 Weight and Balance Module

In order to start the structural sizing module explained in the following section, GUESS is provided with a Weight and Balance Module to have an estimate of the overall weight and inertias for the aircraft under design. This module allows determining non-structural masses such as payload (passengers and baggages), fuel, paint and systems (landing gears, APU, navigation systems) and the position of their center of gravity. Further, different configurations by varying the number of carried passengers and the amount of fuel stored in the tanks. This module also gives a first empirical estimation of the structural weight. When it concerns structural sizing, the Weight and Balance module is useful to have a rough estimate of the position of center of gravity, moments of inertias and total weight of the aircraft required to correctly identify inertial loads to be applied when different kinds of maneuver are used for sizing.

This mudule is derived from QCARD code and can of course be used for other purposes different from GUESS goals, such as flight mechanics performances and stability analysis. The interested reader is referred to the reference given to have an overview of the analytical formulas used to estimate the weight and balance of each item.

The original program is composed of four scripts, grouped in the main *weight_xml* function which receives as an input a string storing an *.xml file name and returns a MATLAB[®] struct.

The first script *wb_weight* calculates all the weights with formulas based on statistical data or empirically determined. The *rcogs* routine computes each mass center of gravity coordinates with respect to a coordinate system whose origin is on the foremost airplane point, i.e. nose apex. The *x* axis points towards tail and *z* axis is directed upwards. It is pointed out all the calculations only consider these two axes, regarding the symmetry plane as a reference for weight arms computation.

The *riner* routine calculates body moments of inertia and the inertia matrix of the aircraft about its center of gravity; two ways to get to this result are available: setting to zero all the “guess” values leads to a “coarse” approximation, based on statistical formulas meanwhile, if minus one (-1) value is imposed, the code is forced to a “refined” inertia estimate which relies on geometrical considerations.

The last function *rweig*, computes aircraft global center of gravity for two significant mass distribution scenarios, MTOW (Maximum Take-off Weight) and MEW (Mass Empty Weight); this last refers to a “dry” condition in which fuel, passengers and baggage masses are not considered in the calculation.

All the calculated quantities are finally saved in a struct named *weight_balance* which is

added to the one derived from the input file which is introduced below. A summary of principal data is stored in *weight_balance.COG* field, an $30 \times 4 \times 15$ matrix (an example is given at the end of the section), where each row refers to an item of the aircraft, the four columns store x,y,z coordinates and mass value (respectively in this order) and the latter index indicates which airplane is under analysis. This last information enables to pick the differences in the weight and balance global values, when one or several design parameters are varied by the designer.

Input/Output

As said above, the core of the weight and balance module is the *weight_xml* function, that can be run independently once input data are provided.

The syntax to launch the function from MATLAB[®] environment is simply:

```
aircraft = weight_xml(filename);
```

where

- aircraft: output struct, which after the call has the new field *weight_balance*;
- filename: input string referring to an *.xml file (see Appendix B for an example of this file).

The input *.xml file mainly contains geometric parameters and additional quantities required for weights estimation. In particular, these additional parameters are:

- internal design specification, i.e. cabin and baggage layout and data (<Cabin> and <Baggage> in the *.xml input file);
- fuel mass and its distribution in each tank (primary and auxiliaries);
- all weights which are independent of aircraft external geometry (volume), such as APU's or electrical/hydraulic systems.

Though not strictly necessary and perhaps often difficult to obtain or even guess, the latter information could improve weight estimation, but usually they do not lead to dramatic variation in weight and balance estimations.

Test case: DLR-F12 (full scale)

This section briefly summarizes some of the outputs from the weight and balance module applied to the DLR-F12 wind tunnel model. Since the F12 is very similar to an Airbus A340, all the geometry parameters are simply recovered by a proper amplifying factor. A real comparison can be made with the Airbus A340 itself or with a Boeing 747, both of them sharing nearly the same general layout and payload.

The MTOW results in 233910.70 kilograms, slightly less than 257000 kilograms for the A340, but also with 100 passengers less. A summary of weights and arms is reported in table 1.3.

As for the inertia matrix (see table 1.1), a significant comparison can be made with Boeing

747 data given in table 1.2 (source R.C. Nelson); the values herein reported have been calculated using the “refined” option.

23825362	0	0
0	30406362	0
0	0	53910982

Table 1.1: Inertia matrix for DLR-F12 with respect center of gravity [$kg \cdot m^2$]

24670000	0	0
0	44880000	0
0	0	67400000

Table 1.2: Inertia matrix for Boeing 747 with respect center of gravity [$kg \cdot m^2$]

N	PART NAME	X [m]	Y [m]	Z [m]	MASS [kg]
1	WING1	31.33	0.000	-1.56	39881.19
2	WING2	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000000
3	HT	61.03	0.000	2.450	2818.855
4	VT	60.15	0.000	6.600	1535.289
5	FUSELAGE	31.43	0.000	-0.62	24307.26
6	LANDING GEAR	0.000	0.000	0.000	10425.63
7	POWERPLANT1	26.31	0.000	-0.30	593.7820
8	POWERPLANT2	22.48	0.000	-0.23	890.6730
9	<i>unused</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000000
10	<i>unused</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000000
11	<i>unused</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000000
12	<i>unused</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000000
13	<i>unused</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000000
14	<i>unused</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000000
15	<i>unused</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000000
16	<i>unused</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000000
17	FURNITURE	31.43	0.000	-0.62	10414.02
18	WING TANKS	29.09	0.000	-1.63	72886.00
19	CENTRE FUEL TANKS	27.37	0.000	0.000	33300.00
20	AUXILIARY TANKS	60.39	0.000	0.000	3000.000
21	INTERIOR	25.49	0.000	-1.09	5960.401
22	PILOTS	9.890	0.000	-1.85	680.0000
23	CREW	0.000	0.000	0.000	75.00000
24	PASSENGERS	25.49	0.000	-1.85	24072.00
25	BAGGAGE	41.46	0.000	1.820	3070.608
26	<i>unused</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000000
27	CG at MTOW	28.77	0.000	-1.00	0.000000
28	<i>unused</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000000
29	CG at MEW	28.53	0.000	-0.78	0.000000
30	<i>unused</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000000

Table 1.3: Table summary of weights and arms for DLR-F12

1.3 Sizing module layout

The structural sizing procedure implemented in GUESS is briefly outlined in figure 1.1, depicting each single module as a sort of black box connected to other functional boxes. The flow chart underlines two main inputs are required to run the computer program. The procedure to run GUESS , from the structural sizing tool through the beam model generation and the definition of output file in NASTRAN format to run aeroelastic analysis, from MATLAB[©] environment is slightly different if it is used as a stand-alone application or included in the NeoCASS software, since in the latest case a user-friendly GUI interface has been developed.

Independently the way to lunch GUESS , two input files are used by all the subsections:

- *geometry .xml* input file, generated by a CAD software, containing detailed informations about the overall airframe geometry; this file is never modified within the current computer program;
- *technology .xml* input file collects all the other informations that are not geometric parameters (i.e. material properties for the airframe, informations to properly define the beam model and the aerodynamic model, and data to setup the aero/structural analysis); it has been defined in a user-friendly version since the user is allowed, at first, to change the values of all the parameters, according his own experience to run GUESS analysis;

More informations about the *geometry* input file are defined in Section 1.4, while an example of *technology* input file is shown in Appendix A. As much as it is useful for the NeoCASS beginner to learn and understand the meaning of the *technology* input file and consciously modify all the parameters, each single entry of the *.xml* file will be lately explained.

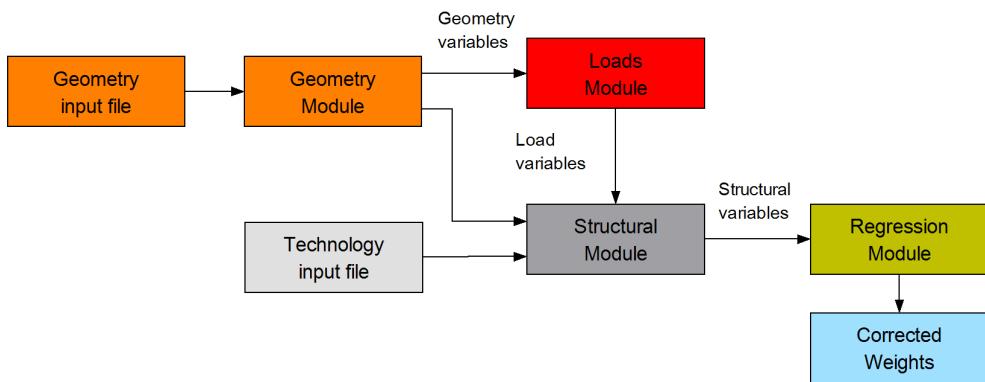


Figure 1.1: Layout of the analytical structural sizing tool

Once the geometric airframe description has been performed within the *Geometry Module* (Section 1.4) using the two *.xml* input files, the *Load Module* is called to determine the loads distributed along vehicle longitudinal axis and lifting surfaces structural span (Section 1.5). Several load cases are analyzed for both fuselage and lifting surfaces, and the envelope of the maximum load is then transferred to the *Structural Module* (Section 1.6) which computes the amount of structural material required to preclude failure in the

most critical condition for each station.

As already introduced above, because the theory used in the present computer program only predicts the load-carrying structure of the aircraft components, a correlation between the predicted weight and the actual load-carrying structural weight and primary weight, as well as the total weight of fuselage, wing, horizontal and vertical tail, is considered by means of the *Regression Analysis Module* (Section 1.7).

The term *lifting surfaces* is extensively used through the following sections and it gathers together the wings, horizontal and vertical tail, since a unified analysis is possible for all the aerodynamic surfaces as lately described.

1.4 Geometry module

For all aircraft design proposals, a good deal of importance must be placed on an accurate definition and subsequent analysis of geometric attributes. This statement is supported by the basic fact the entire scope of intermediary and final objective function evaluations, i.e. design weights, aerodynamics, performance, etc., stem from a fundamental geometric description leading to a physically tangible outcome.

Within the *Geometry module*, a detailed description of fuselage and lifting surfaces is obtained starting from the provided `.xml` input files. GUESS is able to extend the analytical structural sizing, as originally intended in Reference [1], to all lifting surfaces including horizontal and vertical tails. Moreover new geometrical features are available within the procedure, and no simplifications are used within the *Geometry module* since the correspondent geometry is directly generated from the *geometry .xml* input file. This input file is particularly rich in details (several tens) and drives itself a CAD software for the creation of a solid model.

The aircraft is assumed to be composed of different entities like fuselage, wing, horizontal and vertical tail planes. Each aerodynamic surface is possibly further composed by:

- 3 sectors within the wing semispan by means of 2 kinks;
- 2 sectors within vertical tail span by means of 1 kink;
- 2 sectors within horizontal tail semispan by means of 1 kink.

1.4.1 Fuselage

The original fuselage geometric description, as defined in the given reference, is roughly simple respect the real layout for actual aircrafts and more suitable for hypersonic vehicle than subsonic/transonic since it is assumed that:

- fuselage is composed of a nose section and a tail section, which are described by two power-law bodies of revolution placed back-to-back, with an optional cylindrical midsection between them, as shown schematically in Figure 1.2.

To obviate the loss of precision thus introduced analyzing subsonic/transonic transport aircrafts using power-law bodies of revolution, one solution is to employ a quasi-analytical method for the fuselage geometric description.

With the necessary geometric informations stored in the *geometry .xml* input file, the fuselage is taken to be a four-segment body: the nose; the fore and aft section; the tail. As an example of the enhancement achieved by the *Geometry modulus* employing the quasi-analytical method, the fuselage layout for *Boeing747 – 100* and *TCR* are shown in Figure 1.3. In the former example, the hump over the nose represents the passengers compartment located on the upper floor.

1.4.2 Lifting surfaces

The reference [1] defines the assumptions the wings geometric description is based on:

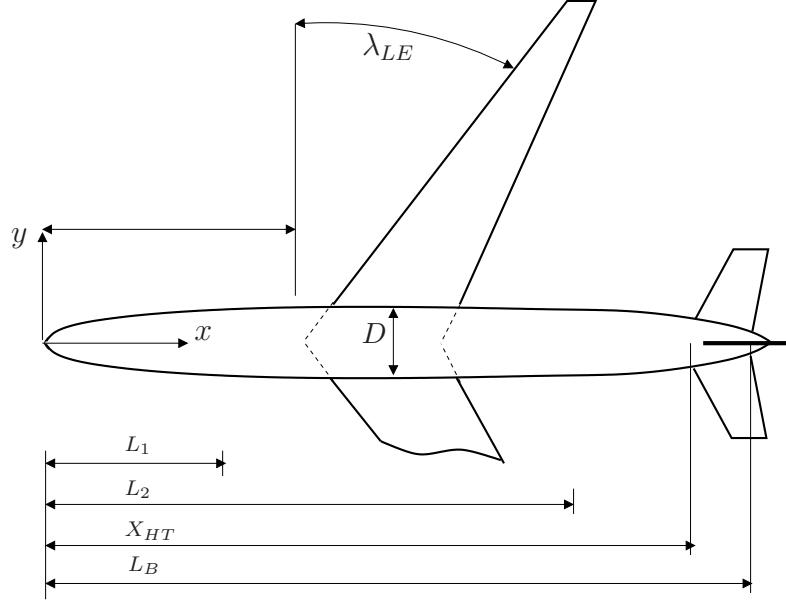


Figure 1.2: Lifting surface structural planform geometry

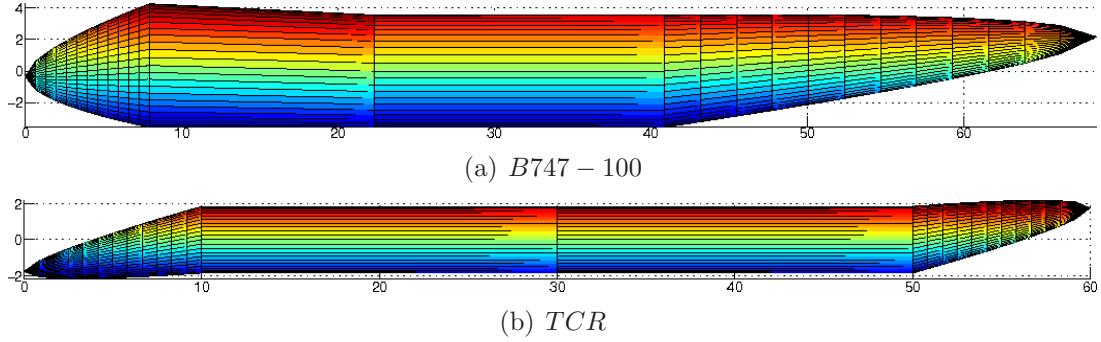


Figure 1.3: Fuselage geometric description by means of GUESS .

1. wings are assumed to be tapered, swept with straight leading and trailing edges; the shape of the planform is trapezoidal as the root and tip chord are parallel;
2. specified portions of the streamwise (i.e. aerodynamic) chord are required for controls and high lift devices, leaving the remainder for the structural wing box; fuel can be carried optionally within structural wing box;
3. the intersection of the structural box with the fuselage boundary determines the location of the rectangular carrythrough structure; the width W_C of the carrythrough structure is defined by the corresponding fuselage diameter.

The trapezoidal wing planform area, as above described, is shown in Figure 1.4. The assumption 1. clearly defines a limitation in the geometric description because actual aircrafts do not have a pure trapezoidal wing.

The current *Geometry module* developed within GUESS is indeed able to extend the wing geometric description to a cranked planform area (Figure 1.5), thus giving a more faithfull lifting surface geometric description for actual aircrafts. The procedure to deal with a

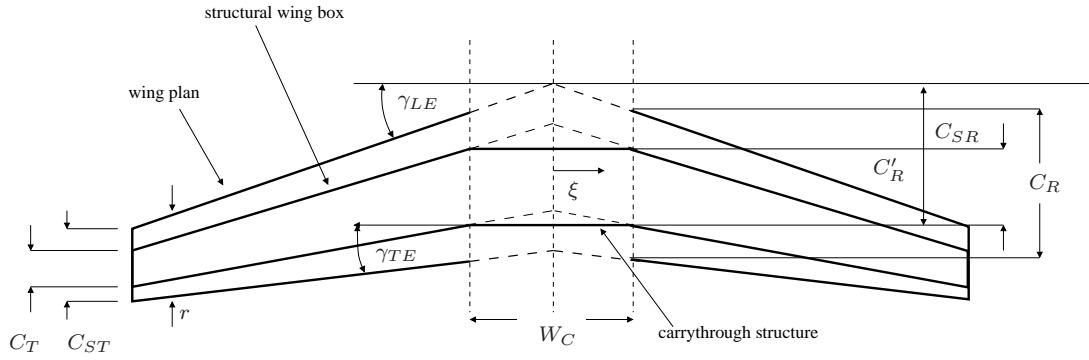


Figure 1.4: Trapezoidal wing body configuration

generic number of sectors within the planform area is extended to all the lifting surfaces.

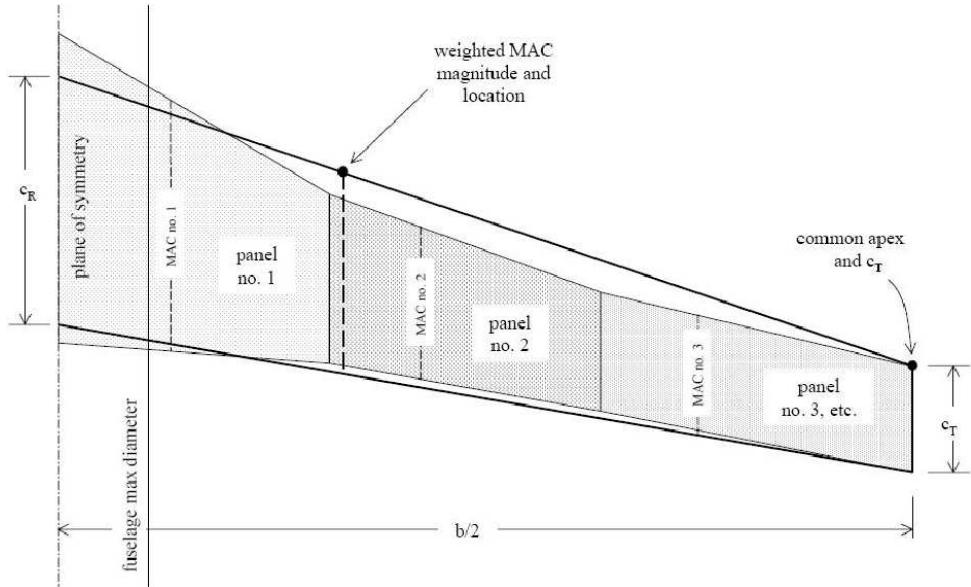


Figure 1.5: Cranked lifting surface geometric description by means of GUESS

In Table 1.4 the maximum number of segments, or aerodynamic panels, that can be used within each lifting surface is restricted by the informations contained in the *geometry.xml* input file.

Component	Maximum number of sectors	Notes
Wing	3	over the semispan
Vertical tail	2	
Horizontal tail	2	over the semispan

Table 1.4: Maximum number of sectors for each component.

As already mentioned in the present chapter and deduced in particular from Figure 1.4,

lifting surfaces may be divided into two sections: *structural wing box* and *carrythrough structure*. The following descriptions might be useful to fix the concepts:

- that part of the wing which transfers net aerodynamic and inertia loads to the fuselage is referred to as the *wing box*; it is essentially a box beam which resists these applied wing loads by shear, bending and torsion in the box; in addition, the box supports the control surfaces, leading and trailing edges, secondary structure and other possible wing-mounted items such as landing gears and engines;
- on aircraft configurations with adequate fuselage volume (that is most transport aircraft), wing boxes are extended across the fuselage for a continuous box from tip to tip; this part is referred to as *carrythrough structure*; this is most efficient from a structural aspect, since symmetrical spanwise bending loads do not enter the fuselage structure; moreover, wing fuel capacity is much greater since the section with the greatest depth is within the fuselage limits.

1.5 Loads module

Loads determination is based on simplified vehicle loading models, assuming that:

- fuselage lift forces are nominally zero for subsonic transports; in future developments of the code fuselage aerodynamic forces will be accounted for by means of simplified theories;
- wing loading, determined independently, is transferred by a couple of vertical forces and torque through the wing carrythrough structure;
- fuselage weight, thus inertia forces, is uniformly distributed over fuselage volume;
- landing gears loads are point loads;
- the propulsion system, if mounted on fuselage, is uniformly distributed.

GUESS determines the loading conditions for fuselage and wing, as originally intended. Moreover, the computer program extends the analysis to the vertical and horizontal tail planes, enhancing the prediction of weight and stiffness distribution all over the complete airframe. In the following sections, a brief summary of the implemented procedures is given ([12], [13]).

1.5.1 Fuselage load condition

Fuselage loading is determined on a station-by-station basis along the length of the vehicle. Three types of loads are considered, as reported in Table 1.5:

1. longitudinal acceleration; in the original formulation it is applicable to high-thrust propulsion system only (thus neglecting the contribution for common transport aircrafts); in the current version, this feature is indeed extended to all propulsion system and included in the procedure since engines thrust might be available from the given specification in the *geometry* input file;
2. tank or internal cabin pressure caused by pressure differential in passenger compartment; the value is computed in *Weight and Balance module*;
3. bending moments.

Load type	Source
Longitudinal acceleration	axial acceleration
Tank or internal cabin pressure	pressure difference
Longitudinal bending moment	quasi-static pull-up maneuver landing runway bump

Table 1.5: Summary of different load conditions for fuselage

These load cases occur at user-specified fractions of Maximum TakeOff Weight (*MTOW*) which are defined by dedicated parameters in the *technology* input file. Table 1.6 briefly reports the parameters which need to be defined in order to successfully carry out the load prediction for the fuselage.

Entry – <code>user_input.loading.*</code>	Note	Unit
<code>normal_load_factor</code>	normal load factor in <i>g's</i>	–
<code>weight_fraction.cman</code>	<i>MTOW</i> weight fraction at maneuver	–
<code>weight_fraction.cbum</code>	<i>MTOW</i> weight fraction at bump	–
<code>weight_fraction.clan</code>	<i>MTOW</i> weight fraction at landing	–

Table 1.6: Entries in the *technology* input file.

Load cases are superimposed simultaneously to determine maximum compressive and tensile loads at the outer shell fibers at each section and determine the most critical load that fuselage is designed for. A factor of safety, nominally 1.5, is applied to each load case.

Longitudinal acceleration

NeoCASS is able to deal with high-thrust propulsion system and take into account the longitudinal stresses produced by axial acceleration. The analysis computes stresses on a station-by-station basis along fuselage length.

These stresses are compressive ahead of the propulsion system and tensile behind the propulsion system. If the aircraft is provided by wing-mounted propulsion pod, acceleration loads are introduced in the connection point between wing structural span and fuselage; otherwise they are introduced where fuselage-mounted propulsion system is located (see Figure 1.6). When the aircraft is provided with both wing and fuselage pods, principle of superposition is applied to compute the distribution of stresses.

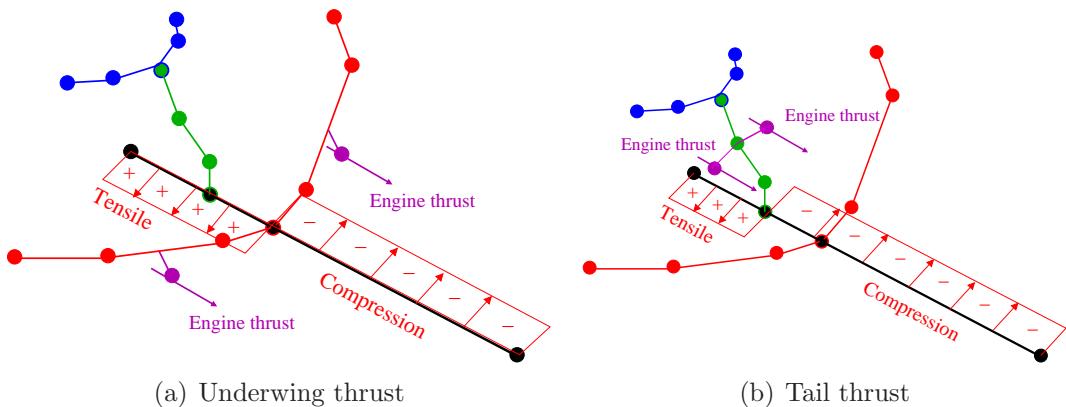


Figure 1.6: Dependence of axial forces with thrust position

Tank or internal cabin pressure

For internal pressure loads, the longitudinal distribution of longitudinal and circumferential (hoop) stress resultants is computed at each fuselage station (see Figure 1.7). Within *technology* input file, it is possible to establish if pressure will be stabilized or not, editing the entry

```
user_input.analysis_setup.pressure_stabilization
```

NeoCASS allows to select among different fuselage structural concepts and consequently it is able to account for the fact a certain percentage of shell material (for example, the core material in sandwich design) is supposed to resist hoop stresses. More details are given in Section 1.6.1.

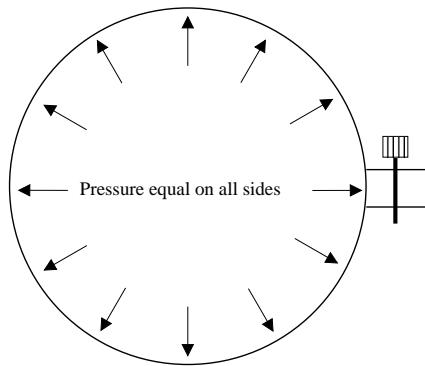


Figure 1.7: Internal cabin pressure distribution

Longitudinal bending moment

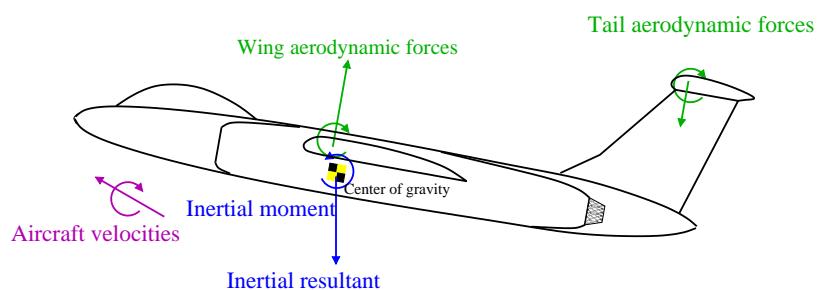


Figure 1.8: Resulting forces for pull-up maneuver.

Bending loads are obtained by simulating:

- vehicle pitch-plane motion during a quasi-static pull-up maneuver at a given normal load factor (normally 2.5 for transport aircraft) as sketched in Figure 1.8; the user

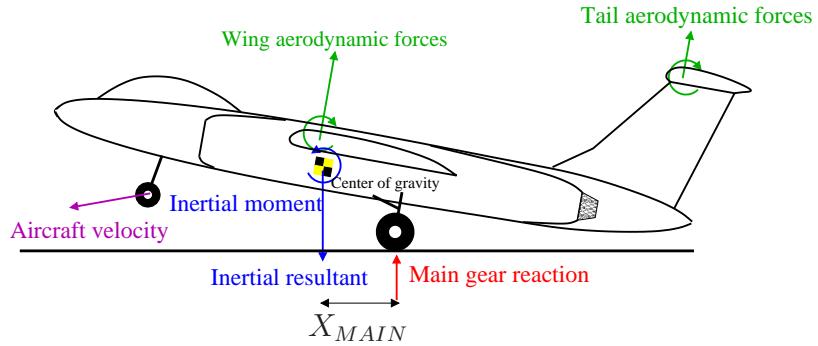


Figure 1.9: Resulting forces for a tail-down landing.

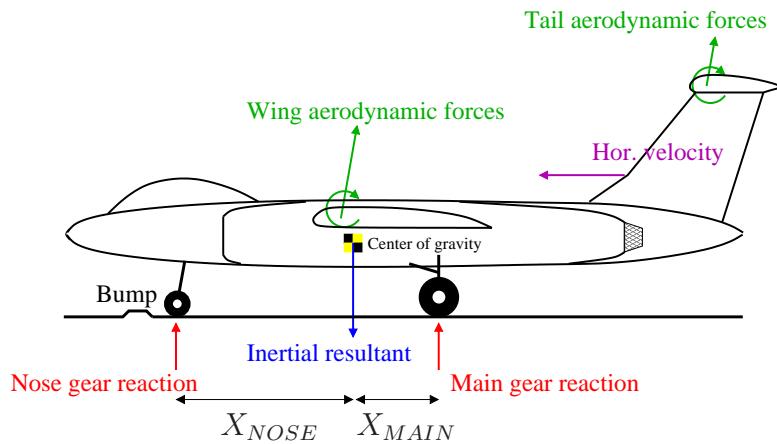


Figure 1.10: Resulting forces for a hit with a runaway bump.

might update the normal load factor, editing the correspondent entry in *technology* input file (Appendix A); NeoCASS computes station-by-station fuselage mass distribution (already available from the *Geometry* module) and determines wing and tail lift loads to equilibrate airplane at current maneuver; at this stage, it is assumed that wing and tail lift forces act through the point where, respectively, wing and tail structural spans are connected to fuselage; further, the procedure distributes these concentrated loads over the correspondent structural root chord computing a system of forces and torques equivalent to the lift loads previously calculated by equilibrium. These calculations allow lift forces to be introduced gradually over wing and tail structural root chord;

- landing touchdown with a given sink velocity as sketched in Figure 1.9; it is assumed to analyze a tail-down landing where the landing load is introduced only in correspondence of the main landing gear; if the main landing gear is located in fuselage, the introduced load is a concentrated force; otherwise, if main landing gear is located under wings, the landing force is transmitted to fuselage through a distributed

system of forces and torques, as previously done with the pull-up maneuver;

- a hit with a runway bump during taxiing as sketched in Figure 1.10; nose and main landing gear loads are computed from equilibrium and longitudinal bending moment may be calculated; again, if the main landing gear is located under wings, the procedure can redefine its load as a distributed equivalent system of forces and torques.

When each single load contribution is computed, the net stress resultants in the axial direction (caused by longitudinal bending, axial acceleration and pressure) and in the circumferential (hoop) direction (caused by pressure only) may be calculated. It is assumed that acceleration loads never decrease stress resultants, while pressure loads may relieve stress if pressure stabilization is chosen as an option. This feature is outlined in detail in Section 1.6.1.

1.5.2 Lifting surfaces load condition

As originally described in [1], the load case used for the main lifting surface weight analysis is the quasi-static pull-up maneuver. Nevertheless, NeoCASS provides in addition a structural sizing tool for tail surfaces; horizontal and vertical planes are sized using appropriated load cases, as pointed out in the Sections 1.5.4 and 1.5.5, respectively.

1.5.3 Wing load condition

The wing load case is determined considering a quasi-static pull-up maneuver condition at a given normal load factor n . Load factor for the current maneuver is defined within the *technology* input file by the parameter

```
user_input.loading.normal_load_factor
```

and it can be edited manually by the user for different conditions.

The applied loads to the wing include the distributed lift and inertia forces, the point loads of landing gear and propulsion, if placed on the wing. Moreover, wings can carry fuel within structural box. It is assumed that fuel is uniformly distributed with respect to the structural wing box volume.

Within the *Load module*, two lift distributions are available to compute lift loads for lifting surfaces along the wingspan, as shown in Figure 1.11. It is possible to select:

- a trapezoidal lift distribution [14] representing a uniform lift over the exposed area of trapezoidal wing panel, editing the following entry in the *technology* input file

```
user_input.analysis_setup.lift_distribution~=1;
```
- Schrenk distribution representing an average between the trapezoidal and the elliptical distributions, where the lift is zero at the wingtip and maximum at the wing-fuselage intersection; the option is activated by setting the entry

```
user_input.analysis_setup.lift_distribution=1
```

The adoption of Schrenk lift load distribution is suggested since it provides a better prediction of the actual aircraft loading [15].

At each spanwise station along the elastic line, positioned in the middle of the wing box, from tip to wing-fuselage intersection, the lift load, center of pressure, inertia load, center of gravity, shear force and bending moment are computed.

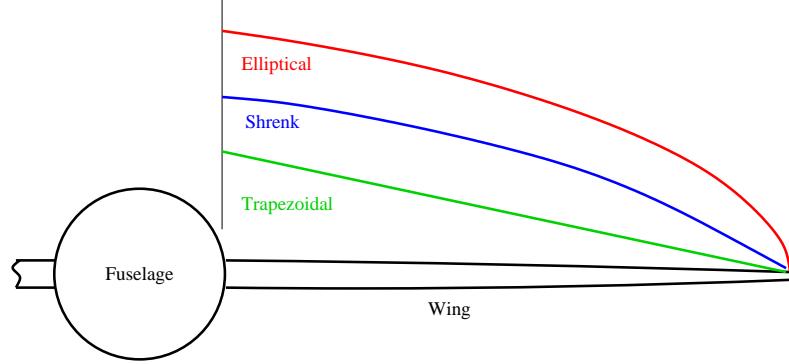


Figure 1.11: Lift distribution models available for aerodynamic load prediction

Shear force and bending moment

The generic relations expressing the shear force and bending moment over the wing structural semispan at the user-specified loading condition are given by Equation 1.1 and 1.2, respectively:

$$F_S(y) = n K_S (L_{lift}(y) - L_{fuel}(y) - L_{eng}(y) - L_{lg}(y)) \quad (1.1)$$

$$M(y) = n K_S (M_{lift}(y) - M_{fuel}(y) - M_{eng}(y) - M_{lg}(y)) \quad (1.2)$$

The total shear force $F_S(y)$ and bending moment $M(y)$ are defined on a station-by-station basis along the structural semispan. Total shear force at the given normal load factor is determined by the sum of lift forces $L_{lift}(y)$ and inertia forces, caused by fuel $L_{fuel}(y)$, wing-mounted propulsion pods $L_{eng}(y)$ and landing gears $L_{lg}(y)$ force distribution.

Similarly, total bending moment is computed as the sum of bending moment due to lift forces $M_{lift}(y)$ and inertia forces, accounting for fuel, wing-mounted propulsion pods and landing gears terms (denoted $M_{fuel}(y)$, $M_{eng}(y)$ and $M_{lg}(y)$, respectively).

The constant K_S in both equations is defined as *constant for shear stress in wing* and it is automatically set by the computer program.

In the following subsections, every single contribution appearing in Equation 1.1 and 1.2 is discussed in detail and more informations about the available computations are given.

Lift load distribution

The lift load is assumed to be distributed over the wing semispan. Lift load is zero at wing tip and maximum at wing-fuselage intersection. At the generic y station, the lift load distribution of the sector outboard of y is given as:

$$L_{lift}(y) = \left(\frac{W}{S} \right) A(y) \quad (1.3)$$

and the correspondent bending moment as:

$$M_{lift}(y) = \left(\frac{W}{S} \right) A(y) C_p(y) \quad (1.4)$$

where W represents the weight of the aircraft, S the exposed-aerodynamic area of the trapezoidal wing, $A(y)$ is the area outboard of y station and $C_p(y)$ is the centroid of area

$A(y)$ measured respect to the actual y station.

As already anticipated, a good match between the predicted lift load and the actual aircraft lift load is obtained when Schrenk lift distribution is chosen as an option, setting `user_input.analysis_setup.lift_distribution=1`.

Considering the *elliptical* lift load distribution as an example, the lift load matches the contour of an ellipse with the end of its major axis on the tip and the end of the minor axis above the wing/fuselage intersection. The values of the area of the ellipse outboard of y , $A(y)$, may be given in the form

$$A_{ELL}(y) = S_{ELL} - \left\{ \frac{2 S_{ELL}}{\pi b_S^2} \left[y (b_S^2 - y^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} + b_S^2 \left(\sin \frac{y}{b_S} \right)^{-1} \right] \right\} \quad (1.5)$$

and, center of pressure of lift outboard of y , $C_P(y)$, for y measured along the structural semispan in the form

$$C_{P_{ELL}}(y) = \frac{4}{3\pi} (b_S - y) \quad (1.6)$$

where b_S represents the structural semispan running over the semiwing.

Fuel load distribution

As already introduced, forces and moments are calculated from wing tip to the wing/fuselage intersection for each generic section y . Referring to Figure 1.12, GUESS calculates

1. the volume of fuel $V_F(y)$ outboard of y section till wing tip, to compute the resulting shear force presented in Equation 1.7;
2. the centroid $C_g(y)$ of the volume $V_F(y)$ measured respect to y section, to compute bending moment presented in Equation 1.8.

These calculations are easily carried out directly in the *Geometry module* when all the geometry of the aircraft is considered. Data are stored during the geometry-processing and are then available for the load module.

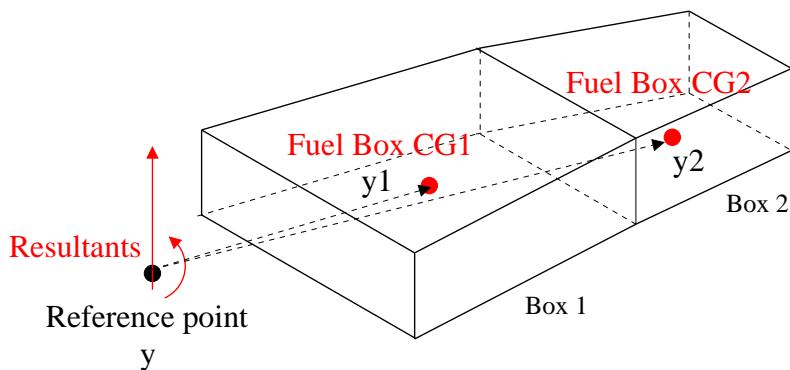


Figure 1.12: Fuel volume outboard of y -station and centroid with respect to y -station

At the generic y station, the shear force and bending moment caused by fuel weight is given, respectively, by:

$$L_{fuel}(y) = \left(\frac{W_{FT}}{V_W} \right) V_F(y) \quad (1.7)$$

and

$$M_{fuel}(y) = \left(\frac{W_{FT}}{V_W} \right) V_F(y) C_g(y) \quad (1.8)$$

where W_{FT} is the weight of fuel carried in the wings and V_W is the total volume of wing structural box where fuel is supposed to be stored, including both semiwings. Estimation of the fuel weight in the wing tanks is supplied by *Weight and Balance module*, reading in the *geometry.xml* input file the field:

`weight_balance.COG(18,4,1)`

selecting in the above matrix the row 18 for the correspondent entry *wing tanks* and column 4 for the mass value ([kg]).

Engines load distribution

In case engines are located under wings, the correspondent shear force and bending moment caused by propulsion pods along structural span are given by:

$$L_{eng}(y) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_e} h_e(y_{e_i} - y) W_{e_i} \quad (1.9)$$

$$M_{eng}(y) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_e} h_e(y_{e_i} - y) W_{e_i} (y_{e_i} - y) \quad (1.10)$$

where n_e is the number of engines mounted on the semispan, W_{e_i} and y_{e_i} are respectively the weight of the i^{th} engine and its location along the structural wing semispan. Force and moment are of course null outboard of the outer engine nacelle. Engine nacelles are considered as application point for loads as:

$$h_e(y_{e_i} - y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y_{e_i} \geq y \\ 0 & \text{if } y_{e_i} < y \end{cases} \quad (1.11)$$

The propulsion system is classified within the *geometry* input file in five different configurations, whose meaning is given in Table 1.7. The user is responsible to choose the better option representing the actual engine architecture. The options 0 – 3 define the engine type and clearly specifying the attachment, either to the wing (0 – 2) or to the fuselage (3). The remaining options (4 – 5) do not define the way the engine is attached to the aircraft, considering the duct as a *floating* propulsion system.

Since from the location of the propulsion pod is not known a priori the attachment to the airframe, which might depend on several technical reasons, GUESS asks the user to define the attachment to the wing or to the fuselage and correctly estimate the correspondent loads.

The weight of the propulsion system ([kg]) is estimated from *Weight and Balance module* and it is stored in the *geometry* input file, in the following entries,

`aircraft.weight_balance.COG(7,4,1)`

`aircraft.weight_balance.COG(8,4,1)`

while the number of engines is specified in

`aircraft.engines1.Number_of_engines`

`aircraft.engines2.Number_of_engines`

Entry – aircraft.engines1.* aircraft.engines2.*	Note
Layout_and_config	0 → attached by a pylon under or over the <i>wing</i> 1 → on <i>wing</i> nacelle with an inverted U section 2 → on <i>wing</i> nacelle with an elongated O section 3 → <i>fuselage</i> mounted engines attached by pylons 4 → straight duct without any attachment 5 → S duct without attachment

Table 1.7: Available engines configurations in *geometry* input file.

Landing gears load distribution

Main landing gear system can be located either on fuselage or wings. In case they are located under wings, the shear force and bending moment they introduce are computed by:

$$L_{lg}(y) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_{lg}} h_{lg}(y_{lg_i} - y) W_{lg_i} \quad (1.12)$$

$$M_{lg}(y) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_{lg}} h_{lg}(y_{lg_i} - y) W_{lg_i} (y_{lg_i} - y) \quad (1.13)$$

where n_{lg} is the number of landing gears mounted on the semispan, W_{lg_i} and y_{lg_i} are respectively the weight of the i^{th} landing gear and its location along the structural wing semispan. As it is done for propulsion system, landing gears are considered concentrated loads:

$$h_{lg}(y_{lg_i} - y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y_{lg_i} \geq y \\ 0 & \text{if } y_{lg_i} < y \end{cases} \quad (1.14)$$

The weight of the landing gear system ([kg]) is estimated by *Weight and Balance module* and it is stored in

`aircraft.weight_balance.COG(6,4,1)`

selecting in the above matrix the row 6 for the correspondent entry *landing gears* and column 4 for the mass value ([kg]).

1.5.4 Horizontal tail load condition

Horizontal tail loads affect the design of a significant part of the aircraft structure and hence require careful consideration of the various design requirements and resulting conditions. In general the structures that are designed by horizontal tail loads are:

1. the horizontal tail stabilizer and elevator;
2. the body structure aft of the pressure bulkhead and horizontal tail support structure;
3. the aft fuselage monocoque structure;
4. the fuselage center section (overwing) structure;

5. the stabilizer actuator (jackscrew mechanism).

Parameters required for horizontal tail structural load analysis

Parameters required for horizontal tail structural load analysis are reported in Table 1.8. Several different load conditions will be considered in the following sections and relationship between horizontal tail loads, pitching moment, stabilizer angle of attack and elevator angle will be pointed out. GUESS implements these load conditions for horizontal tail structural analysis.

Engineering symbol	Variable name	Notes	Unit
L_{α_s}	L_alpha_s	horizontal tail load due to unit α_s	[N/rad]
M_{α_s}	M_alpha_s	horizontal pitching moment due to unit α_s	[Nm/rad]
L_{δ_e}	L_delta_e	horizontal tail load due to unit δ_e	[N/rad]
M_{δ_e}	M_delta_e	horizontal pitching moment due to unit δ_e	[Nm/rad]
L_c	L_c	horizontal tail load due to unit built-in chamber	[N]
M_c	M_c	horizontal pitching moment due to unit built-in chamber	[Nm]
$d \alpha_s / d n_z$	dalphas_dnz	fuselage flexibility due to n_z	[rad]
$d \alpha_s / d L_t$	dalphas_dLt	fuselage flexibility due to L_t	[rad/N]
$d \alpha_s / d M_t$	dalphas_dMt	fuselage flexibility due to M_t	[rad/Nm]
$C_{M0.25}$	CM_025	pitching moment coefficient about 0.25 mac wing	[–]

Table 1.8: Parameters for horizontal tail load analysis.

As pointed out in Appendix A, the user might define the required parameters for the current analysis if accurate values are available by means of more dedicated tools. In case the user does not own further details, GUESS can compute the above parameters using a Vortex-Lattice Method.

Balanced maneuver analysis

Horizontal tail load and pitching moment may be defined as functions of stabilizer angle of attack, α_s , and elevator angle, δ_e , as shown in Equations (1.15) and (1.16).

$$L_t = L_{\alpha_s} \alpha_s + L_{\delta_e} \delta_e + L_c \quad (1.15)$$

$$M_t = M_{\alpha_s} \alpha_s + M_{\delta_e} \delta_e + M_c \quad (1.16)$$

where L_t is the horizontal tail load ([N]), M_t is the horizontal tail pitching moment about 0.25 mac_t ([Nm]); L_{α_s} and M_{α_s} are the tail load and pitching moment due to unit α_s ([N/rad] and [Nm/rad], respectively); L_{δ_e} and M_{δ_e} are the tail load and pitching moment due to unit δ_e ([N/rad] and [Nm/rad], respectively); L_c and M_c are the tail load and pitching moment due to unit built-in camber ([N] and [Nm], respectively).

The horizontal stabilizer angle of attack, α_s , is calculated considering different incremental contributions, as pointed out in Equation (1.17)

$$\alpha_s = s + \Delta\alpha_{s1} + \Delta\alpha_{s2} + \Delta\alpha_{s3} \quad (1.17)$$

where s is the initial trim setting of the stabilizer with respect to a body reference plane. The increment due to wing angle of attack is modified by the wing downwash at the horizontal stabilizer in Equation (1.18)

$$\Delta\alpha_{s1} = (1 - \epsilon_{\alpha w}) \alpha_w - \epsilon_0 \quad (1.18)$$

where $\epsilon_{\alpha w}$ is the change in wing angle of attack (denoted α_w) due to downwash at the horizontal tail reference point (the quarter-chord of the horizontal tail mean aerodynamic chord) and ϵ_0 is the downwash angle at the horizontal tail at $\alpha_w = 0$.

The increment due to pitching velocity is derived for a steady-state maneuver in Equation (1.19)

$$\Delta\alpha_{s2} = 57.3 l_t g (n_z - 1) / V_t^2 \quad (1.19)$$

where l_t is the distance between horizontal tail mean aerodynamic center and center of mass (Figure 1.13). The stabilizer angle of attack is affected moreover from body flexibility

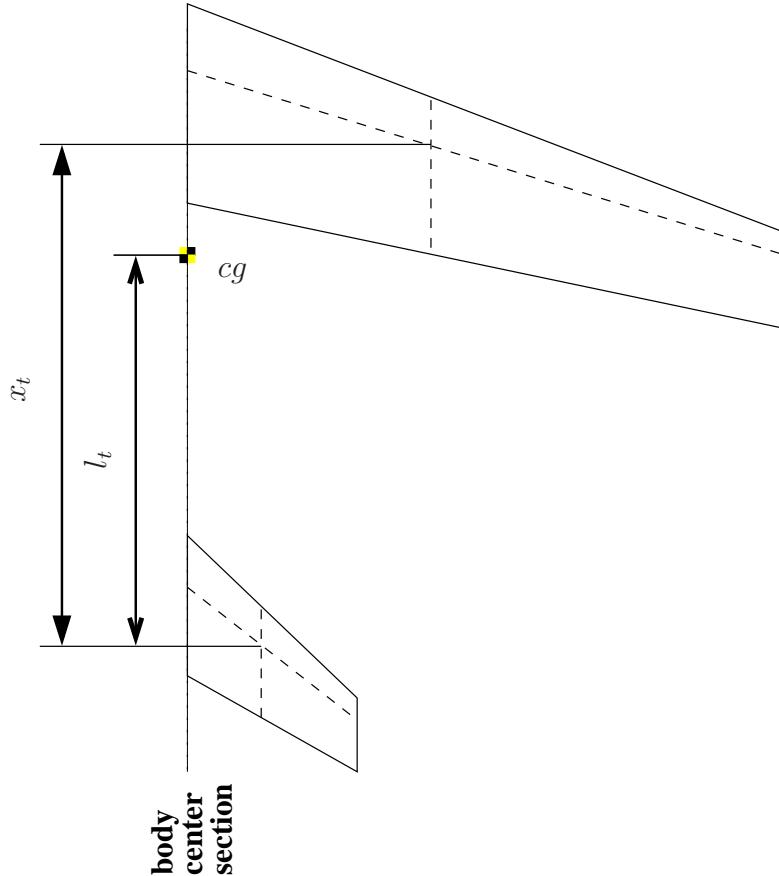


Figure 1.13: Geometric parameters for horizontal tail.

(Equation (1.20)) due to tail loads, normal load factor and pitching acceleration with

respect the center of mass, as defined in Figure 1.14-1.15.

$$\Delta\alpha_{s_3} = \left(\frac{d\alpha_s}{dn_z}\right) n_z + \left(\frac{d\alpha_s}{dL_t}\right) L_t + \left(\frac{d\alpha_s}{dM_t}\right) M_t \quad (1.20)$$

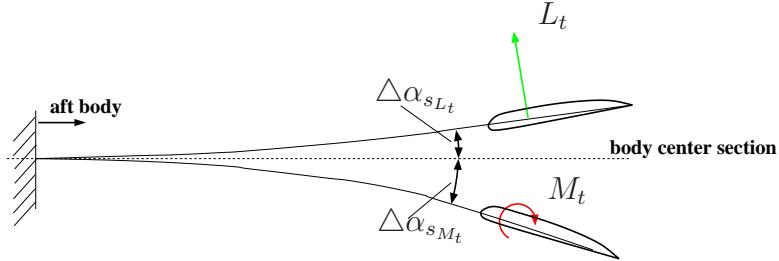


Figure 1.14: Vertical bending due to horizontal tail loads.

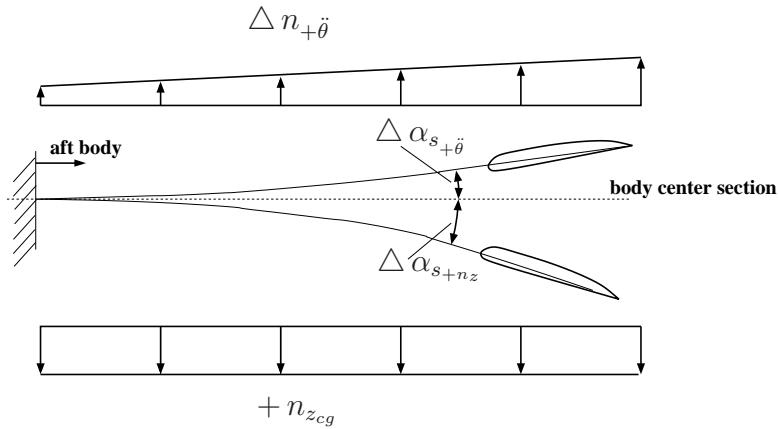


Figure 1.15: Vertical bending due to load factor and pitching acceleration.

Balanced maneuver analysis: equations for conditions with unknown elevator angle

Equations 1.15 through 1.17 may be arranged in matrix notation as shown in Equation 1.21 for conditions where the elevator angle is an unknown. Solution of this set of equations will give the tail load, pitching moment, stabilizer angle of attack, and the elevator required to accomplish the maneuver

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -L_{\alpha_s} & -L_{\delta_e} \\ 0 & 1 & -M_{\alpha_s} & -M_{\delta_e} \\ x_t & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ b_1 & b_2 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} L_t \\ M_t \\ \alpha_s \\ \delta_e \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} L_c \\ M_c \\ BTL x_t \\ c_1 \end{Bmatrix} \quad (1.21)$$

where

$$b_1 = - \left(\frac{d\alpha_s}{dL_t} \right) \quad (1.22)$$

$$b_2 = - \left(\frac{d\alpha_s}{dM_t} \right) \quad (1.23)$$

$$c_1 = (1 - \epsilon_{\alpha w}) \alpha_w - \epsilon_0 + 57.3 l_t g (n_z - 1) / V_t^2 + s_{trim} + \left(\frac{d \alpha_s}{d n_z} \right) n_z \quad (1.24)$$

The term BTL is referred to as the balancing tail load and it might be computed from rotational equilibrium assuming the tail moment over the length x_t to be negligible respect the other contributions in Equation 1.25

$$BTL = n_z W (x_t - l_t) + M_{0.25 mac} / x_t \quad (1.25)$$

Balanced maneuver analysis: equations for conditions with known elevator angle

For steady-state maneuvers where the elevator angle is known, Equation 1.21 can be reduced to three unknowns as herein reported. Simultaneous solution of this set of equations will give the tail load, pitching moment, and stabilizer angle of attack.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -L_{\alpha_s} \\ 0 & 1 & -M_{\alpha_s} \\ x_t & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} L_t \\ M_t \\ \alpha_s \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} L_c + L_{\delta_e} \delta_e \\ M_c + M_{\delta_e} \delta_e \\ BTL x_t \end{Bmatrix} \quad (1.26)$$

The stabilizer geometric position required to attain the load factor n_z may be calculated from Equation 1.27

$$s = \alpha_s - (\Delta \alpha_{s_1} + \Delta \alpha_{s_2} + \Delta \alpha_{s_3}) \quad (1.27)$$

The user might set the known elevator deflection by editing the entries in the *technology* input file

```
user_input.loading.Elevator_limit_deflection_up
user_input.loading.Elevator_limit_deflection_down
```

Abrupt unchecked elevator conditions

Horizontal tail loads may be modified respect the equations shown in 1.15 and 1.16 and rearranged in the following form

$$L_t = L_{tnz=1} + \underbrace{L_{\alpha_s} \Delta \alpha_s + L_{\delta_e} \Delta \delta_{e max}}_{\Delta L_{t \theta}} \quad (1.28)$$

$$M_t = M_{tnz=1} + \underbrace{M_{\alpha_s} \Delta \alpha_s + M_{\delta_e} \Delta \delta_{e max}}_{\Delta M_{t \theta}} \quad (1.29)$$

where $L_{tnz=1}$ and $M_{tnz=1}$ are horizontal tail load and pitching moment calculated for $1-g$ flight condition ([N] and [Nm], respectively), L_{α_s} and M_{α_s} are horizontal tail load and pitching moment due to change in α_s ([N/rad] and [Nm/rad], respectively), L_{δ_e} and M_{δ_e} are horizontal tail load and pitching moment due to change in δ_e ([N/rad] and [Nm/rad], respectively), $\Delta \alpha_s$ is the change in horizontal tail angle of attack due to airplane response and body flexibility, and $\Delta \delta_e$ is the change in elevator angle.

Defining the airplane response factor for an abrupt unchecked maneuver as

$$K_r = \frac{\Delta L_{t \theta}}{L_{\delta_e} \Delta \delta_{e max}}$$

combining with Equation 1.28, the change in stabilizer angle of attack becomes

$$\Delta\alpha_s = (K_r - 1) (L_{\delta_e} / L_{alpha_s}) \Delta\delta_{e_{max}} \quad (1.30)$$

Thus, the net horizontal tail load and pitching moment due to an abrupt unchecked elevator in terms of the response parameter are

$$L_t = L_{t_{nz=1}} + K_r L_{\delta_e} \Delta\delta_{e_{max}} \quad (1.31)$$

$$M_t = M_{t_{nz=1}} + [M_{\alpha_s} (K_r - 1) L_{\delta_e} / L_{\alpha_s} + L_{\delta_e}] \Delta\delta_{e_{max}} \quad (1.32)$$

For analysis load surveys to determine the critical abrupt elevator horizontal tail load condition, a conservative response factor of $K_r = 0.90$ may be used.

Checked maneuver conditions

Using a simplified approach, the total horizontal tail load and pitching moment due to checked maneuver can be written in terms of the balance increment plus the increment due to pitching acceleration caused by returning the elevator to neutral or overchecked position:

$$L_{t_{cm}} = L_{t_{bal}} + L_{t_{\delta_e}} \Delta_{e_{cm}} \quad (1.33)$$

$$M_{t_{cm}} = M_{t_{bal}} + M_{t_{\delta_e}} \Delta_{e_{cm}} \quad (1.34)$$

where $L_{t_{cm}}$ and $M_{t_{cm}}$ are the check maneuver tail load and pitching moment ([N] and [Nm], respectively), $L_{t_{bal}}$ and $M_{t_{bal}}$ are the balancing tail load and pitching moment at normal load factor n_z ([N] and [Nm], respectively), $L_{t_{\delta_e}}$ and $M_{t_{\delta_e}}$ are the tail load and pitching moment due to $\Delta_{e_{cm}}$ ([N] and [Nm], respectively), and $\Delta_{e_{cm}}$ is the incremental check maneuver elevator angle, defined as

$$\Delta_{e_{cm}} = - (1 + CBF) (\delta_{e_{bal}} - \delta_{e_{trim}}) \quad (1.35)$$

where CBF the checkback factor equal zero (0) for elevator returned to the original trim position and equal to 0.50 for overchecked conditions, $\delta_{e_{bal}}$ is the elevator angle required for steady-state maneuver at n_z , and $\delta_{e_{trim}}$ is the elevator angle at the beginning of the maneuver, $n_z = 1$.

Following the above guidelines, GUESS computes horizontal tail lift and pitching moment. Assuming the horizontal plane to be similar to the main wing, it is possible to distribute the loads, applied to the mean aerodynamic center as concentrated force and moment, over the lifting surface semispan. Thus, horizontal tail loads may be recomputed applying the two available types of lift load distributions, namely trapezoidal and Schrenk distribution, in the very similar way already described in Section 1.5.3.

Horizontal tail loads are thus defined on a station-by-station basis along the structural span defined in *Geometry module* and shear force and bending moment might be easily computed for the next *Structural module* analysis.

1.5.5 Vertical tail load condition

Vertical tail loads affect the design of a significant part of the aircraft structure and thus require careful consideration of the various design requirements and resulting conditions. The structures affected by vertical tail loads are:

1. the vertical tail and rudder;
2. the aft body structure;
3. the horizontal tail structure if the tail is mounted up to the fin, as on the *DC – 10* or on top of the fin like *727* configurations;
4. the fuselage center section (underwing) structure.

In general, the basic conditions that will determine the maximum loads for the vertical tail and related structure are:

- yawing maneuver conditions (pilot induced and engine out);
- lateral gust.

Other conditions such as rolling maneuvers usually are not as critical for design of the vertical tail structure except possibly for structural configurations with horizontal tails mounted up to fin.

Within the current GUESS version, yawing maneuvers are considered as load conditions for the vertical tail while lateral gust is left for future enhancement of the structural sizing modulus.

Yawing maneuvers when applied to structural load analysis are maneuvers involving the abrupt application of the rudder in producing a sideslip condition or during engine-out conditions. Two types of yawing maneuvers must be considered for structural design:

1. rudder maneuvers as used for structural design are essentially flat maneuvers whereby the rudder is abruptly applied in a wings-level attitude (see 1.16). This maneuver is difficult to do in flight because large amounts of lateral control must be applied to maintain wings level. The purpose of holding the wings level is to maximize the resulting sideslip;
2. engine-out maneuvers, as used for structural design, are essentially flat maneuvers whereby abrupt application of the rudder is made in conjunction with the resulting sideslip due to unsymmetrical engine thrust (see 1.17).

Parameters required for vertical tail structural load analysis

The parameters required for structural load analysis for yawing maneuvers conditions are shown in 1.9. The relationship between the applied rudder and sideslip for rudder maneuvers, and between unsymmetrical thrust, sideslip and corrective rudder for engine-out maneuvers, may be determined using the methods developed in the following sections.

As pointed out in Appendix A, the aero-data required for the present loading analysis might be evaluated by a dedicated program implemented within GUESS in case the user

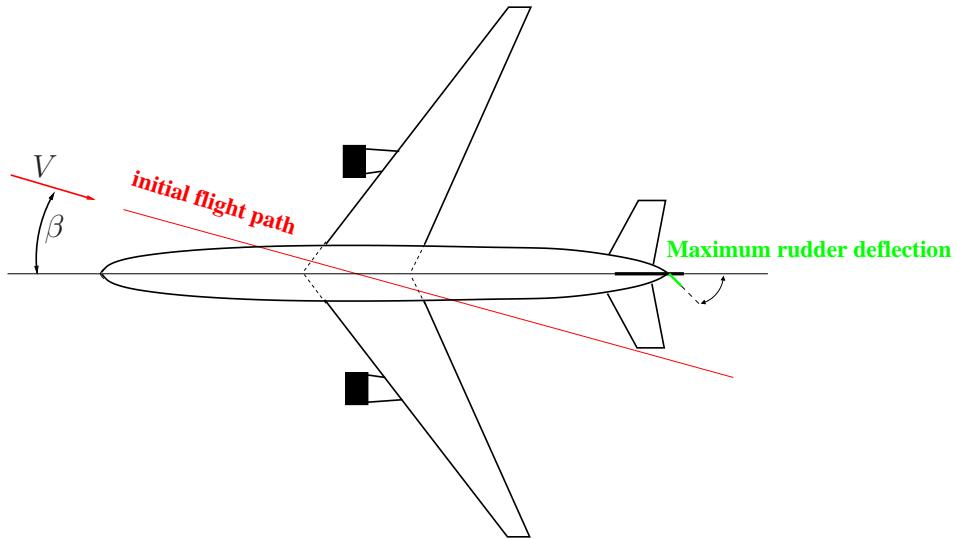


Figure 1.16: Yawing maneuvers: pilot-induced rudder maneuvers.

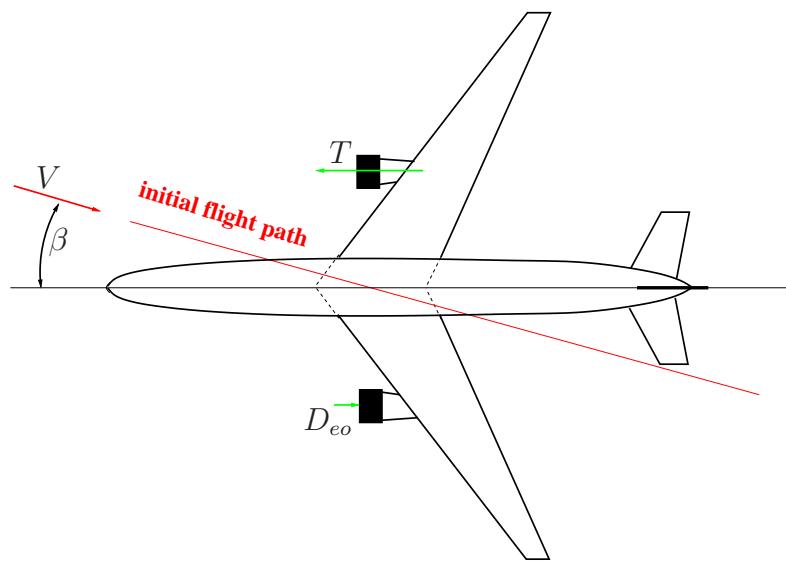


Figure 1.17: Yawing maneuvers: asymmetrical thrust (engine-out) maneuvers.

does not provide further detailed values obtained from more complex calculations. Otherwise the user can edit and update every single entry, as explained in Appendix A. GUESS contains a program for the evaluation of all the aero-data collected in Table 1.9 and a short comparison against the Boeing 747 – 100 is reported in Appendix D.

Rudder maneuver requirements-FAR 25 Criteria

A similar procedure to the one described in *FAR 25.351(a)* is considered for the load condition due to rudder deflection. The use of the commercial regulations has proven adequate for structural design over the past years and the criteria applied are based on simplistic maneuvers that are difficult to achieve in actual service operation of commercial aircraft.

With the airplane in unaccelerated flight at zero yaw, it is assumed that the rudder

Engineering symbol	Variable name	Notes	Unit
CY_{δ_r}	CY_dr	side force coefficient due to rudder	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
Cn_{δ_r}	Cn_dr	yawing moment coefficient due to rudder	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
Cl_{δ_r}	Cl_dr	rolling moment coefficient due to rudder	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
CY_{δ_w}	CY_dw	side force coefficient due to aileron/spoilers	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
Cn_{δ_w}	Cn_dw	yawing moment coefficient due to aileron/spoilers	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
Cl_{δ_w}	Cl_dw	rolling moment coefficient due to aileron/spoilers	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
Cn_{β}	Cn_b	yawing moment coefficient due to sideslip	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
Cl_{β}	Cl_b	rolling moment coefficient due to sideslip	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
CY_{β}	CY_b	side force coefficient due to sideslip	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
CL	CL	airplane lift coefficient	$[-]$

Table 1.9: Parameters for vertical tail load analysis.

control is suddenly displaced to the maximum deflection as limited by the namelist in the `technology.xml` input file

`user_input.loading.Rudder_limit_deflection`

With the rudder deflected, it is assumed that the airplane yaws to the resulting sideslip. Assuming that the airplane is in level flight at a constant airspeed and the aerodynamic coefficients are linear, the three equations for side force, yawing and rolling moments may be written in coefficient form, using notation form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} CY_{\beta} & CY_{\delta_w} & -CL \\ Cn_{\beta} & Cn_{\delta_w} & 0 \\ Cl_{\beta} & Cl_{\delta_w} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \beta_{SS} \\ \delta_w \\ \phi \end{Bmatrix} = - \begin{Bmatrix} CY_{\delta_r} \\ Cn_{\delta_r} \\ Cl_{\delta_r} \end{Bmatrix} \delta_r \quad (1.36)$$

where β , δ_r and δ_w represent sideslip, rudder and control wheel angles, respectively; CY_{β} , CY_{δ_r} and CY_{δ_w} are the side force coefficient due to sideslip, rudder and aileron/spoiler, respectively; Cn_{β} , Cn_{δ_r} and Cn_{δ_w} are the yawing moment coefficient due to sideslip, rudder and aileron/spoiler, respectively; Cl_{β} , Cl_{δ_r} and Cl_{δ_w} are the rolling moment coefficient due to sideslip, rudder and aileron/spoiler, respectively; CL is the airplane lift coefficient and ϕ the airplane bank angle.

Since the rudder available for the current condition is known, solution of equation (1.36) may be performed for the sideslip (Eq. (1.37)), wheel (Eq. (1.38)) and bank (Eq. (1.39)) angles for steady sideslip:

$$\beta_{SS} = \left(\frac{-Cn_{\delta_r} + Cl_{\delta_r} Cn_{\delta_w} / Cl_{\delta_w}}{Cn_{\beta} - Cl_{\beta} Cn_{\delta_w} / Cl_{\delta_w}} \right) \delta_r \quad (1.37)$$

$$\delta_w = (-Cl_{\delta_r} \delta_r - Cl_{\beta} \beta_{SS}) / Cl_{\delta_w} \quad (1.38)$$

$$\phi = (CY_{\beta} \beta_{SS} + CY_{\delta_r} \delta_r + CY_{\delta_w} \delta_w) / CL \quad (1.39)$$

Engine-out maneuver requirements-FAR 25 Criteria

The engine-out maneuver is defined by *FAR 25.367* and basically two design conditions are considered: engine-out conditions due to fuel flow interruption; engine-out conditions

due to mechanical failure of the engine or propeller system. The difference between these two conditions is the time of engine thrust decay. Fuel flow interruption may occur from 1s to as long as several seconds, whereas a mechanical failure happens very abruptly. Structural sizing developed within GUESS considers only the case of engine-out condition due to mechanical failure and a factor of safety of 1.0 is applied. The following considerations are helpful to figure out the resulting sideslip due to unsymmetrical engine thrust. The amount of yawing moment due to engine-out may be determined from (1.40), considering the thrust on the remaining engine and the drag of the dead engine:

$$Cn_{EO} = (T + D_{EO}) a_{EO} / (q S_w b_w) \quad (1.40)$$

where T is the engine net thrust, D_{EO} is the drag of the dead engine and a_{EO} is the arm of the dead engine; q is the dynamic pressure at flight condition, S_w and b_w are, respectively, wing reference area and span. Geometrical parameters are sketched in Figure 1.18.

Equation (1.40) represents the case of single failure in which the thrust and dead engine drag are acting on opposite engines; in general the equation may be applied for a configuration with more than two engines.

The steady-state equations for engine-out conditions are represented in matrix notation in Equation (1.41), determined in a similar way to the system of equations obtained for rudder maneuvers.

$$\begin{bmatrix} CY_\beta & CY_{\delta_w} & CY_{\delta_r} \\ Cn_\beta & Cn_{\delta_w} & Cn_{\delta_r} \\ Cl_\beta & Cl_{\delta_w} & Cl_{\delta_r} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \beta_{EO} \\ \delta_w \\ \delta_r \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} CL\phi \\ -Cn_{EO} \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} \quad (1.41)$$

When it is assumed that rudder is held neutral, the engine-out steady sideslip with zero rudder may be determined from solution of Equations (1.42) through (1.44).

$$\beta_{EO} = \frac{-Cn_{EO}}{Cn_\beta - Cl_\beta Cn_{\delta_w} / Cl_{\delta_w}} \quad (1.42)$$

$$\delta_w = -Cl_\beta \beta_{EO} / Cl_{\delta_w} \quad (1.43)$$

$$\phi_{EO} = (CY_\beta \beta_{EO} + CY_{\delta_w} \delta_w) / CL \quad (1.44)$$

From the steady sideslip solutions as above determined, the steady condition with zero sideslip may be accomplished by use of rudder to balance the unsymmetrical engine-out condition, solving Equations (1.45) through (1.47).

$$\delta_{rEO} = \frac{-Cn_{EO}}{Cn_{\delta_r} - Cl_\beta Cn_{\delta_w} / Cl_{\delta_w}} \quad (1.45)$$

$$\delta_w = -Cl_{\delta_r} \delta_{rEO} / Cl_{\delta_w} \quad (1.46)$$

$$\phi_{EO} = (CY_{\delta_r} \delta_{rEO} + CY_{\delta_w} \delta_w) / CL \quad (1.47)$$

Since from the outlined procedures, it is possible to determine the angle of sideslip, the *Strip Theory* is used to predict the distributed lift load over the vertical tail structural semi-span. Shear force and bending moment might be easily computed on a station-by-station basis for the next *Structural module* analysis.

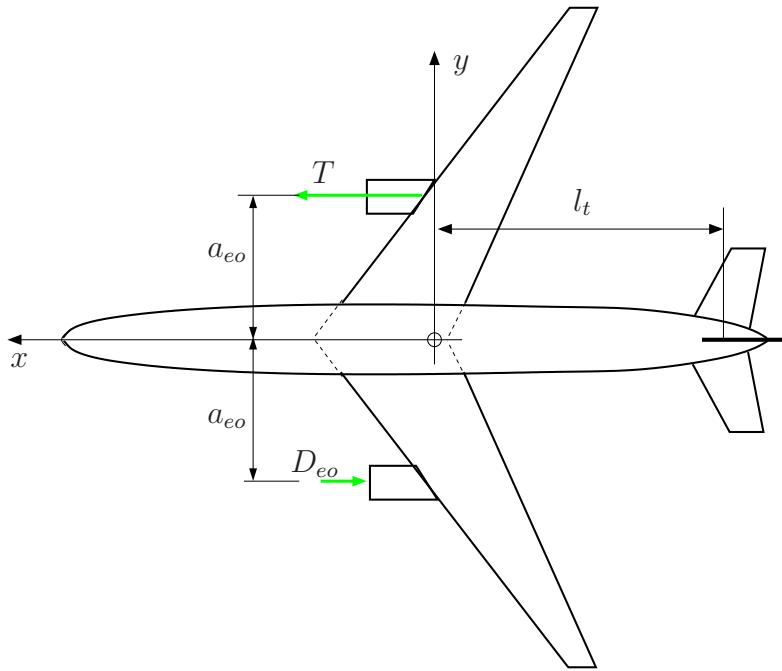


Figure 1.18: Engine-out geometry.

1.6 Structural module

Once total shear force and bending moment along fuselage length and lifting surfaces structural span have been computed, GUESS applies the sizing tool developed within the *Structural module*. Net stress resultants are calculated on a station-by-station basis for the components identified by the user in the stick model. Then, the minimum amount of structural material required to preclude failure in the most critical conditions for fuselage and lifting surfaces is determined.

In the following pages, a brief description of the structural sizing procedure is given and few informations to correctly setup the *technology .xml* input file in relation to the available structural concepts are proposed.

1.6.1 Fuselage structural analysis

Weight estimates are developed for the load-carrying fuselage structure, which are ruled by the user by specifying in the input file one of the seven different structural geometry concepts reported in Table 1.10.

GUESS provides a simply stiffened shell concept using longitudinal frames, three concepts with Z-stiffened shells and longitudinal frames, one with structural material proportioned to give minimum weight in buckling, one with buckling efficiency compromise to result in lighter weight in minimum gage, and one a buckling-pressure compromise. Similarly, there are three truss-core sandwich designs, two for minimal weight in buckling with and without frames, and one a buckling-minimum gage compromise.

To correctly update the *technology .xml* input file for different aircraft configurations, the user shall set the entry

`user_input.material_property.fus.kcon`

Entry kcon	Structural concept
1	Simply stiffened shell, frames, sized for minimum weight in buckling
2	Z-stiffened shell, frames, best buckling
3	Z-stiffened shell, frames, buckling-minimum gage compromise
4	Z-stiffened shell, frames, buckling-pressure compromise
5	Truss-core sandwich, frames, best buckling
6	Truss-core sandwich, no frames, best buckling
7	Truss-core sandwich, no frames, buckling-minimum gage-pressure compromise

Table 1.10: Available fuselage structural geometry concepts

choosing one of the seven available fuselage structural concepts (from 1 – 7) with the physical/structural meaning as illustrated in Table 1.10.

According to the specific fuselage structural concept, GUESS loads a ASCII file where all the fuselage structural geometric parameters are stored and sorted by structural concepts (Appendix C). It is then possible to perform the structural sizing for the different available fuselage concepts.

Failure modes considered for fuselage sizing are:

1. compressive yield strength;
2. ultimate tensile strength;
3. local buckling and gross buckling of the entire structure;
4. a minimum gage restriction on the thickness.

In order to carry out the sizing, the following assumptions are made :

- maximum stress failure theory is used for predicting yield failure;
- buckling calculations assume stiffened shells behave as wide columns and sandwich shells behave as cylinders;
- the frames used for stiffened shells are sized according to *Shanley* Criterion, which considers the frames as elastic support for the wide column.

Stress resultants in axial and hoop direction

Once fuselage loads have been determined as presented in Section 1.5.1, and considering first the circular shell, the stress resultants in the axial direction (dimensionally [N/m]) caused by longitudinal bending, axial acceleration, and pressure at a generic fuselage station x are

$$N_{xB} = \frac{M r}{I'_y} \quad (1.48)$$

$$N_{xA} = \frac{W_s}{P} \quad (1.49)$$

$$N_{xP} = \frac{A P_g}{P} \quad (1.50)$$

respectively, where r is the fuselage radius, $A = \pi r^2$ is the fuselage cross-sectional area, and $P = 2\pi r$ is the fuselage perimeter. In Equation 1.48, $I_y' = \pi r^3$ is the moment of inertia of the shell divided by the shell thickness. In Equation 1.49, accounting for the engines thrust, W_s is the portion of vehicle inertia ahead of station x if x is ahead of the inlet entrance, or the portion of vehicle inertia behind x if x is behind the nozzle exit. In Equation 1.50, P_g is the pressure differential for the passenger compartment during cruise.

The total tension resultant is thus

$$N_x^+ = N_{xB} + N_{xP} \quad (1.51)$$

if x is ahead of the nozzle exit, and

$$N_x^+ = N_{xB} + N_{xP} + N_{xA} \quad (1.52)$$

if x is behind it. Similarly, the total compressive stress resultant is

$$N_x^- = N_{xB} + N_{xA} - \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if not pressure stabilized} \\ N_{xP} & \text{if stabilized} \end{cases} \quad (1.53)$$

if x is ahead of the nozzle exit, and

$$N_x^- = N_{xB} - \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if not pressure stabilized} \\ N_{xP} & \text{if stabilized} \end{cases} \quad (1.54)$$

if x is behind it. These relations are based on the premise that acceleration loads never decrease stress resultants, but pressure loads may relieve stress, if pressure stabilization is chosen as an option. The user shall set the entry

`user_input.analysis_setup.pressure_stabilization=1`

if pressure differential for passengers compartment is stabilized at cruise altitude, or

`user_input.analysis_setup.pressure_stabilization=0`

if pressure is not stabilized. More informations about options ruled by the user may be found in Appendix A.

The stress resultant in the hoop direction, dimensionally [N/m], is

$$N_y = r P_g K_P \quad (1.55)$$

where K_P accounts for the fact that not all of the shell material (i.e., the core material in sandwich designs) is available for resisting hoop stress. The value of the coefficient K_P is given in Table C.2, Appendix C, for each fuselage structural concept.

Equivalent isotropic thickness for shell and frames

The equivalent isotropic thicknesses of the shell are given by

$$t_{SC} = \frac{N_x^-}{F_{cy}} \quad (1.56)$$

$$t_{S_T} = \frac{1}{F_{tu}} \max(N_x^+, N_y) \quad (1.57)$$

$$t_{S_G} = K_{mg} t_{mg} \quad (1.58)$$

for designs limited by compressive yield strength (F_{cy}), ultimate tensile strength (F_{tu}), and minimum gage, respectively. A fourth thickness that must be considered is that for buckling critical design, t_{S_B} . The following relations are derived for the equivalent isotropic thickness of the shell required to preclude buckling, t_{S_B} , and for the smeared equivalent isotropic thickness of the ring frames required to preclude general instability, t_F .

Stiffened shell with frames concept: user_input.material_property.fus.kcon, 1 to 5. Assuming the shell to be a wide column, denoting the frame spacing as d and Young's modulus for the shell material as E , the buckling equation is

$$\frac{N_x^-}{d E} = \varepsilon \left(\frac{t_{S_B}}{d} \right)^2 \quad (1.59)$$

or, solving for the shell thickness t_{S_B}

$$t_{S_B} = \sqrt{\frac{N_x^- d}{E \varepsilon}} \quad (1.60)$$

The frames are next sized to prevent general instability failure. Assuming that frames act as elastic support for the wide column (*Shanley Criterion*), the smeared equivalent thickness of the frames is

$$t_{F_B} = 2 r^2 \sqrt{\frac{\pi C_F N_x^-}{K_{F1} d^3 E_F}} \quad (1.61)$$

where C_F is Shanley's constant, K_{F1} is a frame geometry parameter, and E_F is Young's modulus for the frame material. Assuming the structure to be buckling critical, the equivalent thickness of the structure, $t = t_{S_B} + t_{F_B}$, must be minimized with respect d , the frame spacing, leading to the following relations

$$t = \frac{4}{27^{1/4}} \left(\frac{\pi C_F}{K_{F1} \varepsilon^3 E_F E^3} \right)^{1/8} \left(\frac{2 r^2 \rho_F (N_x^-)^2}{\rho} \right)^{1/4} \quad (1.62)$$

$$t_{S_B} = \frac{3}{4} t \quad (1.63)$$

$$t_{F_B} = \frac{1}{4} t \quad (1.64)$$

$$d = \left(6 r^2 \frac{\rho_F}{\rho} \sqrt{\frac{\pi C_F \varepsilon E}{K_{F1} E_F}} \right)^{1/2} \quad (1.65)$$

where, obviously, the density of the frame material is denoted by ρ_F and the density of the shell material denoted by ρ .

Frameless sandwich shell: user_input.material_property.fus.kcon, 6 and 7.

Assuming that the elliptical shell buckles at the load determined by the maximum compressive stress resultant N_x^- , the buckling equation for the frameless sandwich concepts is

$$\frac{N_x^-}{r E} = \varepsilon \left(\frac{t_{S_B}}{r} \right)^m \quad (1.66)$$

or, solving for the shell thickness t_{S_B}

$$t_{S_B} = r \left(\frac{N_x^-}{r E \varepsilon} \right)^{\frac{1}{m}} \quad (1.67)$$

Several values of the coefficients involved in Equations 1.59 to 1.67 are given in the Appendix C.

For each fuselage station, the shell thickness t_S is selected according to compression t_{S_C} , tension t_{S_T} , minimum gage t_{S_G} and buckling criteria t_{S_B} . All failure criterias and geometrical constraints have to be satisfied

$$t_S = \max (t_{S_C}, t_{S_T}, t_{S_G}, t_{S_B}) \quad (1.68)$$

If the structure is buckling critical, $t_S = t_{S_B}$, the equivalent isotropic thickness of the frames, t_F , is computed from Equation 1.64; if the structure is indeed not buckling critical, $t_S > t_{S_B}$, the frames are re-sized to make $t_S = t_{S_B}$. In particular a new frame spacing is computed from Equation 1.61. The sizing procedure is outlined in Figure 1.19.

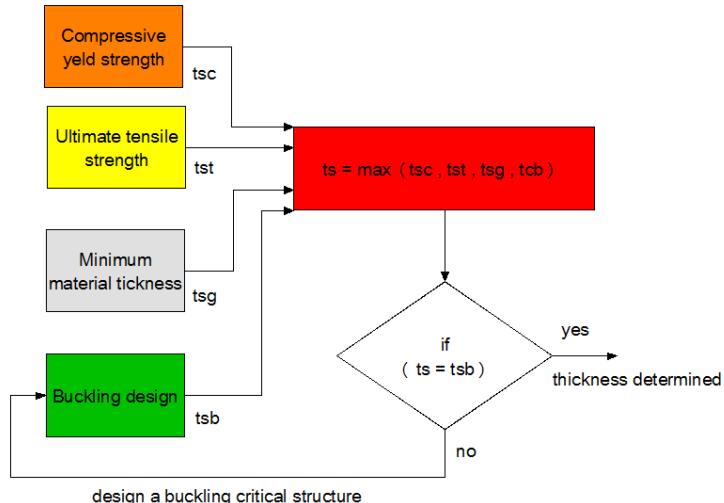


Figure 1.19: Station sizing criteria to determine minimum allowable thickness

Ideal fuselage structural weight

Once the equivalent thickness of the frames and shells are computed for each fuselage station, the ideal fuselage structural weight can be easily determined

$$W_I = 2 \pi \sum_{i=1}^N (\rho t_{S_i} + \rho_F t_{F_i}) r_i \Delta x_i \quad (1.69)$$

where the quantities subscripted i are defined station-by-station along the fuselage length.

1.6.2 Conceptual fuselage cross-section layout

For the purpose of weight estimation, it is convenient to size the structural elements in terms of equivalent isotropic thicknesses, as discussed in the previous section. These can be thought of as the thicknesses that would result if the structural material is *smeared* to a constant thickness on the shell surface.

More often in the preliminary design it is required a more detailed description of the cross-section for use in a Multidisciplinary Design Optimization (MDO). This section discusses a methodology to define detailed informations for the fuselage cross-section layout depending on the structural concept used in the analysis. The methodology is extensively treated in Reference [16].

In the following section the minimum-weight analyses are presented for wide columns. Wide columns are axial-compression members which are free along their unloaded edges; therefore, the general instability may be predicted by Euler column theory. It is assumed that wide columns are stiffened in the direction of loading and include the effects of coupling between adjacent elements in the local mode of instability. Local buckling is calculated from a single equation, where the buckling coefficient is dependent upon the relative proportions of the elements of the structure.

The analyses are defined on the assumption that the structure has a sufficiently large number of stiffeners to permit the geometric properties to be based on a unit repetitious width between stiffeners, namely b_s , even though the end bays may be of width b_s .

Unflanged, integrally stiffened wide columns

Considering the cross-sectional geometry of an unflanged, integrally stiffened wide column as depicted in Figure 1.20, 4 parameters might be computed to determine the structural design layout:

1. t_w , thickness of stiffener web element;
2. t_s , thickness of sheet or skin element between each stiffener;
3. b_w , height of stiffener web element;
4. b_s , width of sheet element between each stiffener.

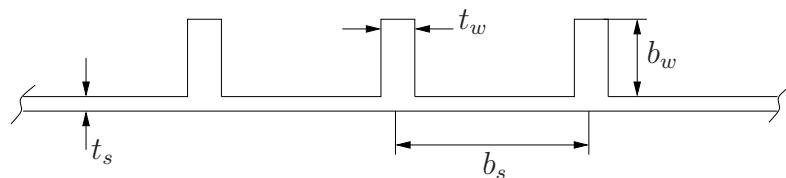


Figure 1.20: Typical unflanged, integrally stiffened shell geometry.

Combining the buckling stress for general instability determined by Euler theory with the methods of minimum-weight analysis, the following efficiency equation is determined

$$\frac{N_x^-}{l \bar{\eta} E} = \varepsilon \left(\frac{t_s}{l} \right)^2 \quad (1.70)$$

denoting by

- N_x^- , the maximum compressive stress resultant per unit width;
- l , the length of the width column;
- $\bar{\eta}$, the effective plasticity reduction factor defined as $\bar{\eta} = \eta_T^{3/4}$, where η_T is the ratio of tangent modulus to Young's modulus, E ;
- t_s , the equivalent isotropic thickness of the shell computed by Equation 1.68;
- ε , the efficiency factor.

The efficiency factor, ε , is a non-linear function of b_w / b_s and t_w / t_s . The relationship shows that the maximum value of efficiency factor, $\varepsilon_{max} = 0.656$, is obtained selecting the ratios

$$\left(\frac{t_w}{t_s} \right) = 2.25 \quad (1.71)$$

$$\left(\frac{b_w}{b_s} \right) = 0.65 \quad (1.72)$$

and corresponds to the fuselage structural concept number 1 presented in Table 1.10 and later in Appendix C.

The following additional equations necessary to determine the dimensions of the wide-column design are:

$$\frac{b_s}{l} = 1.1 \left[1 + \frac{t_w}{t_s} \frac{b_w}{b_s} \right] \sqrt{\frac{\frac{N_x^-}{l \eta_T E}}{\frac{t_s}{l} \left[\frac{t_w}{t_s} \left(\frac{b_w}{b_s} \right)^3 \right] \left[4 + \frac{t_w}{t_s} \frac{b_w}{b_s} \right]}} \quad (1.73)$$

$$t_s = \frac{t_s}{1 + \frac{t_w}{t_s} \frac{b_w}{b_s}} \quad (1.74)$$

Equations 1.71 through 1.74 represent a system of 4 equations in 4 unknowns and the detailed fuselage cross-sectional layout might be determined.

Z-stiffened wide columns

Considering the cross-sectional geometry of a Z-stiffened wide column as depicted in Figure 1.21, 6 parameters might be computed to determine the structural design layout:

1. t_w , thickness of stiffener web element;
2. t_s , thickness of sheet or skin element between each stiffener;
3. t_f , thickness of stiffener flange element;
4. b_w , height of stiffener web element;

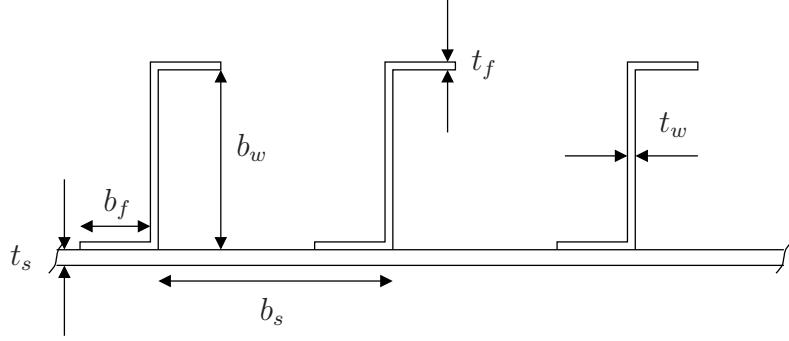


Figure 1.21: Typical Z-stiffened shell geometry.

5. b_s , width of sheet element between each stiffener.

6. b_f , width of stiffener flange element.

The minimum-weight equation as function of the efficiency factor, ε , is determined by

$$\frac{N_x^-}{l \bar{\eta} E} = \varepsilon \left(\frac{t_s}{l} \right)^2 \quad (1.75)$$

with the same notation as presented above in the current section. The efficiency factor, ε , is a non-linear function of b_w / b_s and t_w / t_s . The optimum values of b_w / b_s and t_w / t_s may vary considerably with little reduction in maximum efficiency.

Table 1.11 presents the values of ε_{max} , b_w / b_s and t_w / t_s considering that the typical design might be influenced by bending and pressure loads and by minimum gage constraint. Structural concepts (2 through 4) are summarized in Table 1.10 and later presented in Appendix C. The following equations may be used to complete a Z-stiffened wide-column

b_w / b_s	t_w / t_s	ε_{max}	Structural concept
0.87	1.06	0.911	2
0.58	0.90	0.76	3
0.60	0.60	0.76	4

Table 1.11: Efficiency factor and structural concepts.

design, as 6 geometry parameters have to be computed:

$$b_f = 0.3 b_w \quad (1.76)$$

$$t_f = t_w \quad (1.77)$$

$$t_s = \frac{t_s}{1 + 1.6 \frac{t_w}{t_s} \frac{b_w}{b_s}} \quad (1.78)$$

$$\frac{b_w}{l} = \frac{0.4 \left(1 + 1.6 \frac{t_w}{t_s} \frac{b_w}{b_s} \right)}{\sqrt{\frac{b_w}{b_s} \frac{t_w}{t_s} \left(1 + 0.59 \frac{t_w}{t_s} \frac{b_w}{b_s} \right)}} \sqrt{\frac{N_x^-}{l \eta_T E}} \sqrt{\frac{t_s / l}{t_s / l}} \quad (1.79)$$

As the user shall specify the structural concept the fuselage is supposed to be designed, the 2 correspondent relations (b_w / b_s and t_w / t_s) from Table 1.11 along with Equations 1.76 through 1.79 might be used to determine detailed fuselage cross-sectional layout.

Truss-core sandwich wide columns

Considering the cross-sectional geometry of a truss-core sandwich wide column as depicted in Figure 1.22, 4 parameters might be computed to determine the structural design layout:

1. t_f , thickness of facing sheet in sandwich panels;
2. t_c , thickness of core material in sandwich panels;
3. b_f , width of sandwich facing sheet element;
4. h , thickness of sandwich.

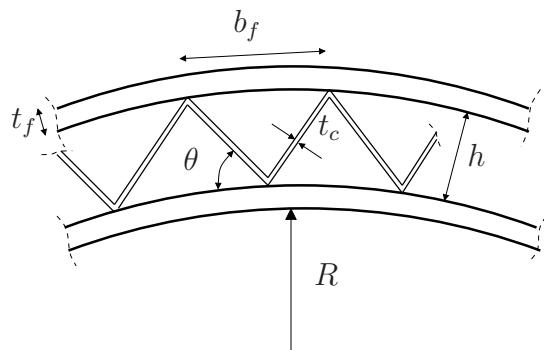


Figure 1.22: Truss-core sandwich geometry

The minimum-weight equation as function of the efficiency factor, ε , is determined by

$$\frac{N_x^-}{l \bar{\eta} E} = \varepsilon \left(\frac{t_s}{l} \right)^2 \quad (1.80)$$

The efficiency factor, ε , is a non-linear function of t_c / t_f and θ , the angle between facing and core elements. Table 1.12 presents the values of ε_{max} , θ and t_c / t_f for the structural concepts (5 through 7) summarized in Table 1.10 and later presented in Appendix C.

θ	t_c / t_f	ε_{max}	Structural concept
62°	0.92	0.605	5
55°	0.65	0.4423	6
45°	1.0	0.3615	7

Table 1.12: Efficiency factor and structural concepts.

The following equations may be used to complete a truss-core sandwich column design, as 4 geometry parameters have to be computed:

$$t_f = \frac{t_s}{2 + \frac{t_c}{t_f} \frac{1}{\cos(\theta)}} \quad (1.81)$$

$$b_f = 0.95 t_f \sqrt{\frac{K_x \frac{t_s}{l}}{\frac{N_x^-}{l \eta_L E}}} \quad (1.82)$$

$$h = \tan(\theta) \frac{b_f}{2} \quad (1.83)$$

$$\bar{\eta} = \sqrt{\frac{2 \eta_T^{3/2}}{1 + \eta_T}} \quad (1.84)$$

As the user shall specify the structural concept the fuselage is supposed to be designed, the correspondent relation (t_c / t_f) from Table 1.12 along with Equations 1.81 through 1.84 might be used to determine detailed fuselage cross-sectional layout.

1.6.3 Lifting surfaces structural analysis

Structural sizing for both wing and tail is performed in very similar way. As it happens for fuselage sizing, the user can choose among six different structural concepts presented in Table 1.13. Three concepts feature unstiffened covers while the remaining feature truss-stiffened cover. Both cover configurations use webs which can be Z-stiffened, unflanged or trusses. Although wing and tail usually share the same structural concepts, it is possible

Entry kcon	Covers	Webs
1	Unstiffened	Truss
2	Unstiffened	Unflanged
3	Unstiffened	Z-stiffened
4	Truss	Truss
5	Truss	Unflanged
6	Truss	Z-stiffened

Table 1.13: Available lifting surface structural geometry concepts

to define, respectively, for wing, horizontal and vertical tail the entries

```
user_input.material_property.user_input.wing.kcon
user_input.material_property.user_input.htail.kcon
user_input.material_property.user_input.vtail.kcon
```

to independently define a structural concept for each lifting surface. Lifting surfaces structural parameters are stored in a ASCII file which is automatically loaded by GUESS (Table C.4).

By means of the geometry and loads distribution calculated from *Geometry module* and *Loads module*, the structural dimensions and weight of the structural box can now be calculated for either wing or tail empennages. It is assumed that the wing and tails are multi-web box beam with the webs running in the direction of structural semispan. The critical instability mode for multi-web box beams is characterized by simultaneous buckling of the covers and of the webs due respectively to local instability and flexure induced

crushing.

Within wing structural box, the spanwise distribution of shear force and bending moment along structural span is used to size covers and webs thickness. The carrythrough structure, carrying the spanwise bending, shear and torsion loads is designed to resist the resulting forces and moments at wing-fuselage intersection. Finally, ideal weight of the wing box structure and ideal weight of the carrythrough structure are computed as sum of the weights for covers and webs.

In a similar fashion, GUESS sizes the horizontal tail along the structural semispan and in correspondence of the carrythrough structure, which can be now connected to the fuselage or to the vertical tail if a T-tail is considered.

Equivalent isotropic thickness for covers and webs

With the above assumptions, the solidity, ratio of volume of structural material to total wing box volume, of the least weight multi-web box beams is given as

$$\Sigma = \varepsilon \left(\frac{M}{Z_S t^2 E} \right)^e \quad (1.85)$$

and

$$\Sigma = \frac{W'_{bend}(y)}{\rho Z_S t} \quad (1.86)$$

where the structural coefficients, ε and e , are given in Table C.4 depending on the web and cover geometries, M is the applied bending moment, t is the thickness, E is Young's modulus, and Z_S is dimensionally a length. Many efforts have been spent defining correctly the last parameter.

Combining Equations 1.85 and 1.86, the weight of bending material per unit span, W'_{bend} , dimensionally $[kg/m]$, may be computed on a station-by-station basis.

The weight of shear material per unit span, W'_{shear} , is

$$W'_{shear}(y) = \frac{\rho F_S}{\sigma_S} \quad (1.87)$$

where F_S is the applied shear load and σ_S is the allowable shear stress. The material density of the frames and webs is denoted by ρ . The optimim web spacing is computed from the relation

$$d_W = t \left[\frac{1 - 2e_C}{(1 - e_C) \sqrt{2\varepsilon_W}} \left(\frac{M}{Z_S t^2 E} \right)^{\frac{2e_C - 3}{2e_C}} \varepsilon_C^{\frac{3}{2e_C}} \right]^{\frac{2e_C}{4e_C - 3}} \quad (1.88)$$

where the subscripts W and C refer to the webs and covers, respectively. As last, the equivalent isotropic thicknesses of the covers and webs may be determined form

$$t_C = d_W \left(\frac{M}{Z_S t E \varepsilon_C d_W} \right)^{\frac{1}{e_C}} \quad (1.89)$$

$$t_W = t \sqrt{\left(\frac{M}{Z_S t^2 E} \right)^{2 - \frac{1}{e_C}} \left(\frac{\varepsilon_C d_W}{t} \right)^{\frac{1}{e_C}} \left(\frac{2}{\varepsilon_W} \right)} \quad (1.90)$$

In a similar fashion to the fuselage analysis, a minimum gage thickness for webs and covers is prescribed, namely t_{gw} and t_{gc} , respectively.

Ideal weight of the wing box structure

The ideal weight of the wing box structure, dimensionally [kg], is therefore

$$W_{BOX} = \frac{2b_S}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(W'_{bend_i} + W'_{shear_i} \right) \quad (1.91)$$

indicating the structural semispan running over the wing-semispan by b_S and the number of elements the span is divided into by N .

Ideal weight of the carrythrough structure

The carrythrough structure must resist torsion in addition to bending and shear loads. The torsion material is required to carry on the twist induced due to the sweep of the wing. The principle of superposition is applied when more than one sector is defined for each single lifting surface, since each sector has generally its own geometric characteristics. Defining with a subscript 0 the correspondent parameters at the root (i.e. wing/fuselage intersection, fuselage/vertical tail intersection for configurations similar to B747 – 100, or vertical/horizontal tails for configurations with a T-tail), the solidity is

$$\Sigma_C = \varepsilon \left(\frac{M_0 \cos(\Lambda_S)}{t_0^2 C_{SR} E} \right)^e \quad (1.92)$$

where the only longitudinal component of the bending moment contributes to the bending material estimation. The weight of the bending material is therefore

$$W_{bend_C} = \rho \Sigma_C C_{SR} t_0 W_C \quad (1.93)$$

indicating by W_C the width of the carrythrough structure. The weight of the shear material is

$$W_{shear_C} = \rho \frac{F_{S_0}}{\sigma_S} W_C \quad (1.94)$$

The torque on the carrythrough structure is calculated as the chordwise projection of the bending moment at the root and the weight of the torsion material is

$$W_{torsion_C} = \frac{\rho T (t_0 + C_{SR}) W_C}{t_0 C_{SR} \sigma_S} \quad (1.95)$$

At last, the weight of the carrythrough structure is computed from summation of the bending, shear and torsion material

$$W_C = W_{bend_C} + W_{shear_C} + W_{torsion_C} \quad (1.96)$$

Remark. The ideal structural weight for fuselage and lifting surfaces have been computed using equations 1.69, 1.91 and 1.96. Both the fuselage length and lifting surfaces structural span have been divided into a generic number of segments, namely N . The user is recommended to refer to the Appendix A and notice the relation between the above discretization and the one which is available in the entry

`experienced_user_input.geometry.guess`

of the `technology .xml` input file. Once again, the number of elements herein considered is not related to the beam elements in the stick model and precisely the former shall be greater than the latter.

1.7 Regression module

Statistical analysis techniques are used to determine a relation among the weight predicted by GUESS for the load-bearing structure computed, named W_{guess} , and the actual weight of load-bearing structure, W_{actual}^S , the weight of primary structure, W_{actual}^P , and the total weight W_{actual}^T .

Two different applications have been developed:

- a linear regression equation;
- *power-intercept* regression equation.

The first basic application is the linear regression wherein the weights estimated by GUESS procedure are related to actual weights of the aircraft by means of a simple linear relation:

$$W_{actual} = m W_{guess} \quad (1.97)$$

In order to estimate the slope coefficient m for the linear relation, the resulting residual ε is minimized with respect to m :

$$\varepsilon = \sum_{i=1}^n (W_{actual_i} - W_{guess_i})^2 \quad (1.98)$$

where n is the number of aircraft whose data are to be used in the fit.

The second form of regression equation used is non linear:

$$W_{actual} = m W_{guess}^a \quad (1.99)$$

where m and a are two unknowns to be determined by minimization of the residual (defined in Equation (1.98)). In order to formulate the resulting *power-intercept* regression equation, an iterative approach is utilized since the formulation is basically not linear [17]. A *correlation coefficient* R is introduced as a measure of the accuracy the actual aircraft weight is predicted. R represents the reduction in residual error due to the regression technique. It is defined as

$$R = \sqrt{\frac{\varepsilon_t - \varepsilon_r}{\varepsilon_r}} \quad (1.100)$$

where ε_t and ε_r refer to the residual errors associated with the regression before and after analysis is performed, respectively. R is limited between 0 and 1: a perfect fitting of the data leads to $R = 1$ while no improvement introduced by the regression leads to $R = 0$

1.7.1 Fuselage regression analysis

The user can choose the desired statistical technique for fuselage correlation setting in the *technology .xml* input file the following entry:

`user_input.analysis_setup.regression.analf`

If it is set to 'linear', char type, a linear regression equation is utilized; otherwise, the *Regression module* assumes a *power-intercept* regression equation.

With a slightly different notation than that used in Section 1.6.1, the ideal fuselage structural weight computed by means of GUESS is herein denoted as W_{guess} , instead of W_I .

Fuselage structural, primary and total weights are computed by applying the relations shown in Table 1.14 to the ideal fuselage weight obtained from the developed method. In the table, R represents the correlation coefficient given by Eq. (1.100) for each case.

	Linear-intercept eq.	Power-intercept eq.
Structural weight	$W_{actual}^S = 1.305 W_{guess}$ $R = 0.9946$	$W_{actual}^S = 1.1304 (W_{guess})^{1.0179}$ $R = 0.9946$
Primary weight	$W_{actual}^P = 1.8872 W_{guess}$ $R = 0.9917$	$W_{actual}^P = 1.6399 (W_{guess})^{1.0141}$ $R = 0.9917$
Total weight	$W_{actual}^T = 2.5686 W_{guess}$ $R = 0.9944$	$W_{actual}^T = 3.9089 (W_{guess})^{0.9578}$ $R = 0.9949$

Table 1.14: Regression analysis applied to the predicted fuselage weight

Fuselage structural weight consists of all load-carrying members including bulkheads, major and minor frames, coverings, covering stiffeners and longerons.

Fuselage primary weight consists of all load-carrying members as well as any secondary structural item such as joints fasteners, keel beam, fail-safe straps, flooring, flooring structural supplies, and pressure web. It also includes the lavatory structure, gallery support, partitions, shear ties, tie rods, structural firewall, torque boxes and attachment fittings. Finally, *fuselage total weight* accounts for all members of the body, including the structural and primary weights. It does not include passenger accommodations, such as seats, lavatories, kitchens, stowage and lightning, the electrical system, flight and navigation system, alighting gear, fuel and propulsion system, hydraulic and pneumatic system, communication system, cargo accommodations, flight deck accommodations, air conditioning equipment, the auxiliary power system and emergency system.

1.7.2 Lifting surfaces regression analysis

Similarly to the fuselage regression analysis, GUESS offers the option to set the desired statistical technique in the *technology .xml* input file for each single lifting surface component, editing the entries

```
user_input.analysis_setup.regression.analw
user_input.analysis_setup.regression.analv
user_input.analysis_setup.regression.analh
```

for wing, vertical and horizontal tail, respectively.

With a slightly different notation than that used in Section 1.6.3, the ideal weight of the wing box structure, W_{BOX} , and the ideal weight of the carrythrough structure, W_C , are generically denoted by W_{guess} in the following of the present section.

Lifting surfaces structural, primary and total weights are computed by applying the relations shown in Table 1.15 to the ideal weights obtained from the developed method. Again, in the table, R represents the correlation coefficient (Eq. (1.100)) for each case.

Wing structural weight consists of spar caps, interspar coverings, spanwise stiffeners, spar webs, spar stiffeners, and interspar ribs.

Wing primary weight includes all wing box items in addition to auxiliary spar caps and spar webs, joints and fasteners, landing gear support beam, leading and trailing edges,

	Linear-intercept eq.	Power-intercept eq.
Structural weight	$W_{actual}^S = 0.9843 W_{guess}$ $R = 0.9898$	$W_{actual}^S = 1.3342 (W_{guess})^{0.9701}$ $R = 0.9946$
Primary weight	$W_{actual}^P = 1.3442 W_{guess}$ $R = 0.9958$	$W_{actual}^P = 1.6399 (W_{guess})^{0.9534}$ $R = 0.9969$
Total weight	$W_{actual}^T = 1.7372 W_{guess}$ $R = 0.9925$	$W_{actual}^T = 3.9089 (W_{guess})^{0.9268}$ $R = 0.9946$

Table 1.15: Regression analysis applied to the predicted wing weight

tips, structural firewall, bulkheads, jacket fittings and attachments.

Wing total weight includes wing box and primary weight items in addition to high-lift devices, control surfaces and access items. It does not include the propulsion system, fuel system, and thrust reverses; the electrical system; alighting gears; hydraulic and pneumatic system; anti-icing devices; emergency system.

1.8 GUESS validation for six aircrafts

Several test cases have been considered, through the development of the computer program, to evaluate the analytical solutions offered by means of GUESS. In the current section, the structural sizing tool has been tested against six different aircrafts, very different in weights, geometrical dimensions and usage purpose. The correspondent input files, *technology* and *geometry .xml* files, have been edited for each case-study. A comparison between the analytical estimation for the load-carrying weight and the actual load-carrying weight for the fuselage and wing, considering six different aircrafts, is herein proposed.

The present comparisons have been obtained using gross geometric informations for fuselage and wing, representing the wing as a trapezoidal flat panel and the fuselage with the two power-law bodies, since more accurate informations were not available at that time. The analysis is limited to the fuselage and wings, lacking data for the tail planes. The following aircrafts have been included in the case-study:

- Boeing 720
- Boeing 737
- Boeing 747-100
- Douglas DC-8
- McDonnell Douglas MD-11
- Lockheed L-1011

1.8.1 Analytical GUESS solution for fuselage

The comparison against the six analyzed aircrafts is given in Table 1.16, where the fuselage analytical weight estimation computed by means of GUESS is referred to the actual load-carrying structure weight. With same notation used in Section 1.7.1, the former is denoted by W_{guess} and the latter by W_{actual}^S .

Weights are expressed in *US* customary system since the available original data are provided in these units.

Aircraft	Load-carrying structure [lb]	GUESS [lb]
B-720	9013	9476
B-737	5089	5190
B-747	39936	43428
DC-8	13312	14337
MD-11	25970	30171
L-1011	28352	31837

Table 1.16: Fuselage weight breakdown for eight transport aircraft

1.8.2 Analytical GUESS solution for wing

The comparison against the six analyzed aircrafts is given in Table 1.17, where the wing analytical weight estimation computed by means of GUESS is referred to the actual load-carrying structure weight. With same notation used in Section 1.7.1, the former is denoted by W_{guess} and the latter by W_{actual}^S . Weights include left and right wing box and the carrythrough structure.

Weights are expressed in *US* customary system since the available original data are provided in these units.

Aircraft	Load-carrying structure [lb]	GUESS [lb]
B-720	11747	10602
B-737	5414	4439
B-747	50395	62449
DC-8	19130	19786
MD-11	35157	35393
L-1011	28355	27155

Table 1.17: Wing weight breakdown for eight transport aircraft

1.8.3 First conclusions

The available geometric description provided within the *geometry .xml* input file for the six case-studies is rather simplistic, not considering the actual shape for fuselage and wings, and consequently the loads determination could be influenced by the inaccuracy introduced in the geometric modelling. As shown schematically in Tables 1.16 and 1.17, GUESS analytical results are close, sometimes matching, the actual values for the aircrafts.

The vehicle, that most is far from the analytical solution, is Boeing 747–100. The reader, scrolling the present paper, will have opportunity to notice further analysis and comparisons for the same aircraft, that is Boeing 747–100. At this point, it can be predicted that the analytical results may be precise, matching within some point fractions the actual values, thanks to a more detailed and faithful geometric modelling.

1.9 Generation of a stick model from the analytical solution

As explained in the previous chapters, GUESS provides an analytical estimation of fuselage and lifting surfaces weight by means of methods having a somewhat physical basis. This is of course a first goal toward the enhancement of details for the structural system in the conceptual design phase of the aircraft under development. For sure now the designer is more independent on solely statistical methods, with the inaccuracies and loss of generality they may provide, and can rely on an improved structural weight for at least stability and flight performances analyses.

Now, the further step consists in analyzing the airframe to predict its static, dynamic, aeroelastic behaviour in a very simplified way (since many details are still missing and are not even important in this early design phase) starting from a suitable stiffness distribution. The SMARTCAD module will be used for these purposes. The common practice in aerospace industry is to start with simplified structural model such as a stick beam model with lumped masses. This kind of model guarantees:

- easiness in modelling the structural system since not so many details are required to be set up the numerical model;
- low computational costs, especially if it is considered a large amount of simulations are required to assess the aircraft with different inertial configurations and flight conditions.

Of course, the solution determined by GUESS may not be free of unwanted and inadmissible phenomena, thus the necessity to numerically assess its safety and performances for the operating conditions the machine will work. Optimization procedures may then be adopted to improve structural material distribution under some constraints, such as minimum weight, stiffness, absence of flutter instabilities, defined by the designer. Future developments will be enhanced the code with this feature.

1.10 Stick module layout

GUESS generates for the airframe under development a stick model by converting the informations available in its internal database. This tool can be considered as a sort of pre-processor for the numerical aeroelastic tool SMARTCAD .

The preprocessor has the following tasks:

- obtain a mass distribution over fuselage length and lifting surfaces structural span, presented from Sections 1.4 to 1.7;
- generate a stick model for the aircraft using beam elements (see Section 1.10.2);
- extract stiffness distribution useful to define beam mechanical propertis (see Section 1.11);
- write an ASCII file containing the model in a suitable format for SMARTCAD (see Section ??).

In the following sections, the procedure to generate the stick model from the *geometry* and *technology* input files will be outlined and the most important features will be pointed out.

1.10.1 Elements connectivity

The first task for the pre-processor is the one to create a close cruxiform scheme for the aircraft, defined as *geometric stick model*. The primary purposes of this first model which is shown in Figure 1.23(a) is to give a brief idea of the aircraft overall shape, dimensions and connectivity among the different components and to create a closed circuit for the structural model able to transfer loads from each neighbouring component. The aircraft is indeed considered to be made of single independent *components* which need to be assembled together by sharing some points in common. Each component is composed of different pieces named *sectors* which allow to define different properties along the axis of the component (aerodynamic, inertial structural). The number of allowed sector is defined a-priori in the input file; default values for the admissible number of sectors for each component are reported in Table 1.18. Sussessively, the created geometric-stick is converted into the classic structural stick model; each single line becomes one or more beams with associated structural and inertial properties as shown in Figure 1.23(b). The pre-processor allows to user to have full control for generation of the stick model by:

1. choosing and selecting the total number of components to be used among fuselage, wing, vertical and horizontal tail up to assembling a compleat aircraft; it is possible to consider whatever combination, from a simple single wing up to a complete airframe model;
2. specifying the number of sectors used for each component;
3. specifying the number of beam elements used within each sector;
4. applying symmetry with respect to vertical symmetry plane; in this case, special care needs to be taken into account correctly defining the structural constraints (see Section ??) and aerodynamic boundary conditions (see Section 2.2);

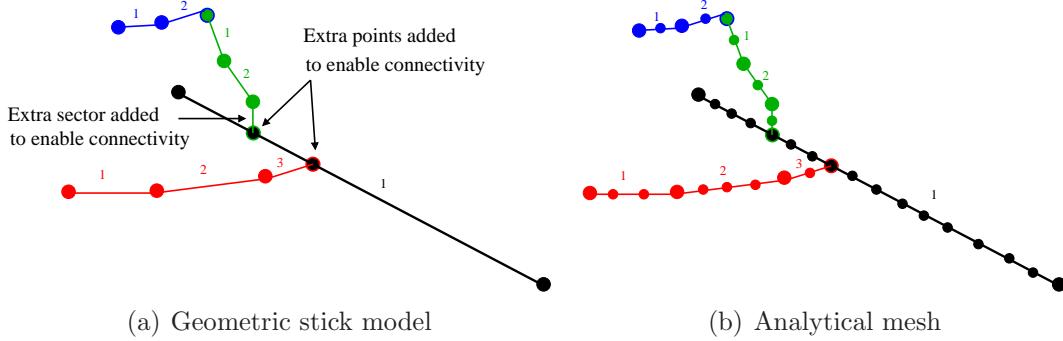


Figure 1.23: Analytical structural model generation from the geometric stick model

Component	Maximum number of sectors	Notes
Wing	3	over the semispan
Vertical tail	2	
Horizontal tail	2	over the semispan

Table 1.18: Maximum number of sectors for each component.

To successfully accomplish the generation of the geometric stick model, the following guidelines are followed:

1. fuselage is the first component to be assembled within the airframe model; at the beginning of the procedure, fuselage is defined by the minimum number of points required to correctly describe its own geometric shape; more than two points, one located at the nose and one at the tail, are generally used to account for the actual fuselage shape, as clearly shown in Figure 1.3;
2. the wing is the second component to be assembled; the procedure calculates the position of the points defining each sector from wing root to wing tip (referring to Figure 1.23(a), four points have been calculated). At this stage, the procedure can establish a relation of connectivity between fuselage and wing. One point, coincident with the first point on the wing root, is added to the fuselage in order to enable connectivity between the wing and the fuselage;
3. the vertical tail is the third component to be assembled; the procedure calculates the position of points defining each sector from root to tip (in Figure 1.23(a), three points bordering sector 1 and 2 are depicted); the relation of connectivity between fuselage and vertical tail is performed in the following way:
 - if the first point for vertical tail does not lie on reference fuselage line, one more vertical sector is added to vertical tail; if the new point on reference fuselage line does not coincide with any existing point, it is added to the points defining the fuselage;
 - if the first point for vertical tail lies on reference fuselage line, no points and sector are added to vertical tail but one more point can be added to the fuselage if it is not coincident with any existing point;

4. the horizontal tail is the last component assembled; depending on the vertical position of the horizontal plane, relation of connectivity can be established with either fuselage or vertical tail; Figure 1.23(a) shows one example of T-tail empennages.

Within the implemented routines, it is assured that no coincident points have been defined twice for the same component. In a nutshell, the procedure herein depicted adds additional points for each component in order to define correct relations of connectivity, which play an important role when the *Output* file is written in a suitable format for SMARTCAD .

1.10.2 Beam mesh generation

The geometrical stick model generated can be considered as the main reference frame along which the structure is laid and built. All structural and inertial properties are referred to its axes. This model can be easily converted into a beam model by a simplified mesh-generation procedure which preserves mesh smoothness and uniformity as shown in Figure 1.23(b). Thus more lines (beams) and points (nodes) are added.

Within the *technology* input file, appropriate entries are dedicated to define the number of beam elements to use in the mesh-generation routine. For a complete airframe model the correspondent entries are shown in Table 1.19.

Physical component	Entry – user_input.geometry.*
Fuselage	beam_model.nfuse
Wing	beam_model.nwing_inboard beam_model.nwing_midboard beam_model.nwing_outboard beam_model.nwing_carryth
Vertical tail	beam_model.nvtail_inboard beam_model.nvtail_outboard
Horizontal tail	beam_model.nhtail_inboard beam_model.nhtail_midboard beam_model.nhtail_carryth

Table 1.19: Entries to set the number of beam elements within each sector

The mesh-generation process assures consistency between the sectors defined in the *geometry* input file and the entries herein presented to link univocally for each generic component, the number of beam elements with the correspondent sector. If a generic component (fuselage, wing or tail for example) is not assembled, there is obviously no need to define the correspondent entry to set the number of beam elements. The procedure does not consider at all any component not directly defined in the *geometry* input file.

One short example is useful to understand this feature. Table 1.20 collects the entries only for wing component. Two cases are considered, the first case where the mid-board sector is not defined and the second case where the out-board sector is not defined. Supposing to have the same geometrical data in the input file and choosing the number of beam elements as reported, the mesh-generation procedure will not consider the second entry in the first case and the third entry in the second case. The result will be consequently

identical.

Sector	Defined	Entry – user_input.geometry.*	Nr of beams
Wing-inboard	✓	beam_model.nwing_inboard	2
Wing-midboard		beam_model.nwing_midboard	4
Wing-outboard	✓	beam_model.nwing_outboard	3
Wing-inboard	✓	beam_model.nwing_inboard	2
Wing-midboard	✓	beam_model.nwing_midboard	3
Wing-outboard		beam_model.nwing_outboard	4

Table 1.20: Sectors within wing and number of beam elements

As presented in Section 1.10.1, it is necessary to add additional points to establish relations of connectivity among components. It is obvious that the connection points will introduce new sectors within a generic component. Referring back to Figure 1.23(a), the following considerations have to be pointed out:

1. the fuselage contains two connection points, for a total of three sectors, even only one entry has been defined;
2. the vertical tail has a total of three sectors even two entries have been defined;

Consequently, the mesh-generation procedure implements some features to face these additions.

Regarding the first item pointed out, no more inputs have to be supplied to the procedure but automatically the routines tries to mesh in the most uniform and homogeneous way the sector. The procedure first calculates the distance among points as originally intended. Starting from the first point (point on the nose in the case of fuselage), the position of further points are computed until one connection point is reached. Depending on how much the latest generated point is close to connection point, the latest point can be left on that position or merged into the connection point. The procedure continues to locate further points until the last point (point on the tail in the case of fuselage) is reached. For the second point outlined, no more inputs have to be supplied because the procedure makes the assumption the number of beam elements to be used within the additional sector is set equal to the number of beam elements used within the sector which is firstly defined. Back to Figure 1.23(a) the procedure will use for the additional sector the entry

`user_input.geometry.beam_model.nwing_inboard`

if the inboard sector is defined (denoted number 2); otherwise it will use the entry

`user_input.geometry.beam_model.nwing_outboard`

1.11 Structural properties definition

Since at this stage a geometric stick model for aircraft is available and weight estimation has been previously performed, it is necessary to extract mass and stiffness distribution over the nodes of the built beam mesh. As it usually happens, the mesh used in GUESS analytical solution, differs from newly defined beam mesh. Thus freedom is given to the user to come out with a desidered beam model to trade accuracies in some parts of the model for computational costs. To solve the issue of non-matching meshes, an interpolation procedure is required.

1.11.1 Mass and stiffness distribution

GUESS estimates the mass distribution for both fuselage and lifting surfaces along the length and the structural span, respectively. Since from the *Geometry module* introduced in Section 1.4, all geometrical dimensions and structural concepts used within the estimation procedure are available, it is possible to compute separately for fuselage and lifting surfaces the following properties useful to define the stiffness distribution:

- local bearing area distribution;
- transverse shear stiffnesses by default are considered infinite (that is the transverse shear flexibilities are set to zero); they can be computed if the user selects the monocoque method as option;
- local second moment of inertia respect to section axis;
- local torsional constant, evaluated by Bredt analytical formula or by monocoque method, depending on the selected option.

As presented in Appendix A, the *technology* input file contains the entries

```
user_input.analysis_setup.torsion_stiffness.fus
user_input.analysis_setup.torsion_stiffness.wing
user_input.analysis_setup.torsion_stiffness.vtail
user_input.analysis_setup.torsion_stiffness.htail
```

which are used to select the preferred method for the evaluation of the torsional constant and transverse shear stiffnesses, choosing between Bredt analytical formula (if set to one) and monocoque method (otherwise).

The automatic procedure implemented in GUESS is then able to transfer these informations into the correspondent NASTRAN-format card to define the properties of a simple beam element (reading PBAR card). In the following sections, more details about the exported informations in NASTRAN format are given.

Fuselage

GUESS has estimated the thickness of shell t_S and frames t_F , according procedures and methods presented in Section 1.6, as functions of the coordinate running along the fuselage length. Assuming the fuselage cross-section to be approximated by a circular shape with radius r , the local bearing area may be computed by

$$A = 2\pi r t_B \quad (1.101)$$

and, the second moment of inertia respect to two perpendicular axis defining the cross section by the following relations

$$I1 = \pi t_B r^3 \quad (1.102)$$

$$I2 = \pi t_B r^3 \quad (1.103)$$

The torsional constant may be computed using Bredt analytical formula, as shown in Equation 1.104, since the fuselage is assumed to be a single-cell structure. For a single-cell structure, the monocoque method predicts exactly the same value of the torsional constant evaluated by the analytical formula.

$$J = \frac{4 (\pi r^2)^2}{2 \pi r / t_B} \quad (1.104)$$

where t_B is the sum of t_F and t_S . Since within GUESS it is assumed to approximate fuselage cross-section with a circular shape with a constant radius r for each station along fuselage length, second moment of inertia $I1$ and $I2$ are computed by the same expression.

Lifting surfaces

The previous sections have demonstrated the similarities for the lifting surfaces. At this point, GUESS has estimated the thickness of cover t_C , thickness of webs t_W and the number of webs n_W for each spanwise station.

Local bearing area is computed by Equation (1.105) as summation of the area for covers and webs.

$$A = 2 t_C Z_S + n_W n_W t_B \quad (1.105)$$

Second moment of inertia $I1$ respect to section axis 1 in chordwise direction is expressed by Equation (1.106); second moment of inertia $I2$ respect to section axis 2 in direction of thickness is obtained from Equation (1.107).

$$I1 = 2 t_C Z_S \left(\frac{t_B}{2} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{12} n_W t_W t_B^3 \quad (1.106)$$

$$I2 = 2 \frac{1}{12} t_C Z_S^3 + \sum_{i=1}^{n_W} t_W t_B d_i^2 \quad (1.107)$$

Torsional constant is estimated from Equation (1.108) if Bredt analytical formula has been selected. It is assumed that stresses due to torsion circulate within covers and webs carry only bending moment,

$$J = \frac{4 (Z_S t_B)^2}{2 (Z_S + t_B) / t_B} \quad (1.108)$$

where Z_S is the structural box chord and d_i is the distance between the i^{th} web and axis 2.

Lifting surfaces are intended to be multi-cells structure and hence the application of Bredt formula (valid for single-cell) might introduce unacceptable errors, leading to inaccurate evaluations of the torsional constant. In order to compute more accurately the torsional constant, the monocoque method might be selected as option for all the lifting surfaces.

1.11.2 Interpolation over beam model mesh

Structural sizing estimations, including the mechanical properties distribution herein presented, have been performed over a detailed mesh. The mesh used within GUESS procedure is intended to resolve the functions with smoothness and continuity and not to export the beam model mesh. The user, mainly the experienced user, has control over the GUESS mesh since the *technology* input file contains dedicated entry

`experienced_user_input.geometry.guess`

On the other side, the beam model mesh is fully controlled by the user editing the entry (Appendix A)

`user_input.geometry.beam_model`

Mainly for two reasons, interpolation via spline functions is carried out, since:

1. the beam model mesh does not overlap the mesh GUESS uses for the analytical sizing; the beam mesh responds to the user's needs and it might resolve in detail few critical regions, while using a coarse mesh where no critical conditions are expected to be;
2. the distribution of mechanical properties in the GUESS mesh are collocated pointwise; to define the output file for the beam model, beam properties might be defined along each beam-line (Figure 1.24);

The second point outlined is of fundamental importance when a stick beam model for the aircraft is built up. Distribution of mass and inertia originally referred to points have to be interpolated over elements in order to define beam element structural properties, as described in more detail in Chapter ??.

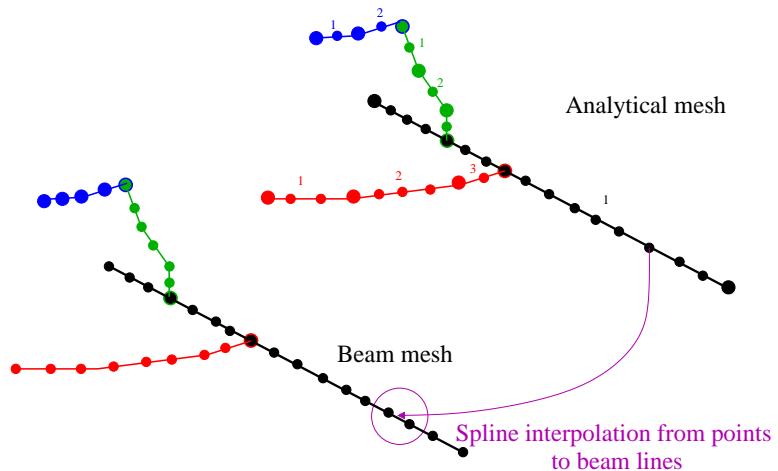


Figure 1.24: Interpolation of structural properties from GUESS to the beam model

Chapter 2

GUESS output file generation in ASCII format

Further the structural sizing procedure and the interpolation of mechanical properties over the beam model mesh, GUESS offers the capability to define the correspondent finite element model for the airframe under investigation. A collection of dedicated routines is available within GUESS and it is intended for the generation of an output file, in ASCII format, easily readable by SMARTCAD and any other finite element program. Most cards automatically generated by GUESS are used for the aero-structural model, while specific cards related to the settings for each solver might be added by user manual editing or through NeoCASS Graphical User Interface (GUI).

Table 2.1 summarizes the automatically generated cards that are defined by GUESS .

Card	Description
MAT1	Linear isotropic material property definition
GRID	Node coordinates definition
RBE0	Master definition for aeronodes
PBAR	Simple beam properties definition
PBARSIM1	Simple beam properties definition for multi-disciplinary optimisation
PBARSIM2	Simple beam properties definition for multi-disciplinary optimisation
CBAR	Simple beam element connection
CAERO1	Aerodynamic panel element connection
SET1	Interpolation set definition
SPLINE2	Radial Basis Function (RBF) interpolation
CONM2	Lumped rigid body mass matrix
TRIM	Flight condition parameters
AEROS	Static aeroelastic and rigid aerodynamics parameters

Table 2.1: Cards exported by GUESS to define the aero-structural model

The creation of the ASCII output file by means of GUESS is intended to setup the finite element model using beam elements and it covers the following steps:

1. structural model definition;
2. aerodynamic modelling;
3. spazial coupling methods;

Field format of generic card.

The data specified for each card may be integers, reals and characters. Integer data can not contain a decimal point, real data must contain a decimal point and character data can be alphanumeric, but they must always start with an alpha character.

Each card contains ten fields per input data entry and one single field consists of 8 character fields, for a total of 80 character fields within one input line. Not all the fields necessarily contain data, they might be black. Considering the typical format of a card (Table 2.2), the GRID card which is used to describe the geometry of the structural model:

- the first field contains the character name of the card;
- fields 2 through 9 contain data input information for the entry;

- field 10 is used only for optional continuation information when applicable

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
GRID	ID	CS	CX	CY	CZ	CD			

Table 2.2: Card field format.

These elementary rules and guidelines adopted by GUESS , exporting the finite element model in suitable format easily readable by SMARTCAD , are very similar to the commercial software NASTRAN[©] . More in general, any finite element commercial software might be used to compute the very same analysis performed by SMARTCAD , using exactly the same ASCII output file generated by GUESS .

2.1 Structural model setup

A numeric structural model is composed by a set of grid points (usually defined as *nodes*) which, with the structural elements, define the size and shape of the model under investigation. When the location of a node is defined in space, it is implicitly assumed its coordinates are defined relatively to a coordinate system. As it happens with NASTRAN[©], the basic absolute coordinate system is indicated with the zero (0) identifier. GUESS defines all the coordinates with respect to the global reference system, which has its origin in the aircraft nose. The global *x* axis runs over the fuselage length, the global *z* axis points upwards (considering the gravity vector pointing downwards) and the global *y* axis is computed by the right-hand rule.

2.1.1 Nodes

When a finite element model of a structure is created, an equivalent mathematical model in matrix form is determined. The unknowns appearing in the matrix equation ruling the static or dynamic behaviour of the structure, are the generalized displacements of the model. These displacements generally consist of the six components for each of the nodes (three displacements and three rotations) and are referred to as the degrees of freedom of the model. The GRID card (see Table 2.3) specifies the location of the node ID in space with respect to a reference coordinate system CS in terms of its coordinates CX, CY, CZ.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
GRID	ID	CS	CX	CY	CZ	CD				
ID	Grid point identification number ($0 < \text{Integer} < 100.000.000$)									
CS	Identification number of coordinate system in which the location of the grid point is defined (0 is the main absolute frame)									
CX	<i>x</i> coordinate in CS frame									
CY	<i>y</i> coordinate in CS frame									
CZ	<i>z</i> coordinate in CS frame									
CD	Identification number of coordinate system in which the displacements, degrees-of-freedom, constraints, and solution vectors are defined at the grid point (Integer ≥ 0)									

Table 2.3: GRID node coordinates definition

2.1.2 Material properties

The card MAT1 (see Table 2.4) defines a linear isotropic material properties by means of its Young's modulus E, shear modulus G, Poisson's ratio and density. The values of E, G and NU are involved in the formulation of the stiffness of the elements available, while the material mass density RHO is used in the generation of the mass matrix of the numeric model. Stress limits for tension, compression and shear (ST, SC and SS, respectively) have no effect on the computational procedures but are required for the optimisation process performed by SMARTCAD .

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
MAT1	MID	E	G	NU	RHO					
	ST	SC	SS							
MID	Material identification number (Integer ≥ 0)									
E	Young's modulus (Real ≥ 0 or blank)									
G	Shear modulus (Real ≥ 0 or blank)									
NU	Poisson's ratio (-1 $<$ Real ≤ 0.5 or blank)									
RHO	Mass density (Real)									
ST, SC, SS	Stress limits for tension, compression and shear; supplied to perform Multi-Disciplinary Optimisation (MDO) (Real ≥ 0 or blank)									

Table 2.4: MAT1 linear isotropic material definition

The following rules apply for the mechanical material properties:

- E and G must not be given as zeros (or blank);
- if NU and E, or NU and G, are both zeros (blank), then both will be set to 0.0;
- if only one among E, G, or NU is zero (blank) then it will be computed by means of linear elastic theory as $E = 2(1 + NU) \cdot G$.

If values are specified for all of the properties E, G, and NU, the dedicated routine within GUESS controls the actual values satisfying the relation for linear isotropic material

$$\left| 1 - \frac{E}{2 \cdot (1 + NU) \cdot G} \right| < 0.01$$

An error message is given in output when the relation from linear elastic theory has been broken and a more suitable material entry might be identified, considering the material not linear isotropic.

2.1.3 Beam geometry and structural properties definition

Typical aerospace application makes use of beam stick models to easily represent the airframe for fuselages and lifting surfaces. Beam elements are characterized by high aspect-ratio and a predominant axis along which each section extends.

The solver SMARTCAD supplies for linear/non-linear one-dimensional beam element applications. The one-dimensional beam represents a structural member with stiffness along a line two grid points.

The beam model developed within SMARTCAD consists of three nodes (the midlength node is automatically generated by the solver) with the following features:

- extensional stiffness along the neutral axis and torsional stiffness about the neutral axis may be defined;
- bending and transverse shear stiffness can be defined in the two perpendicular directions to the axial direction of the element;

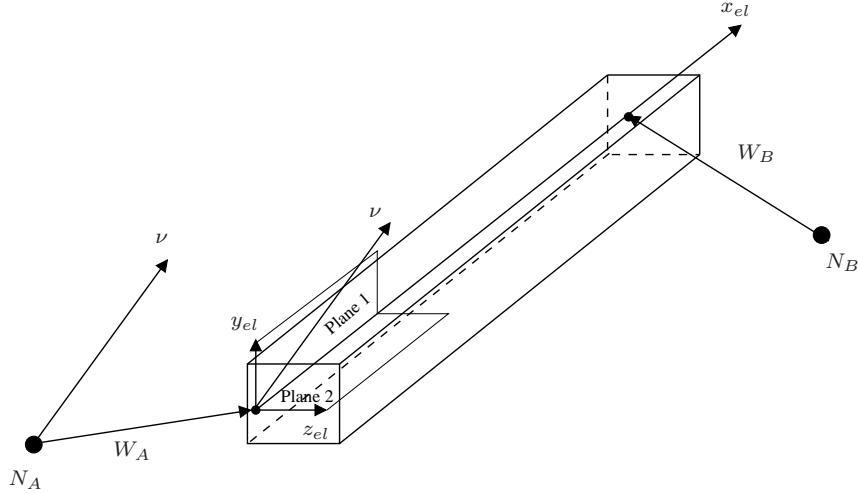


Figure 2.1: CBAR beam geometric parameters

- the properties must be constant along the length of the element (adoption of CBEAM and PBEAM cards may remove this limitation);
- the shear center and the neutral axis must coincide;
- the ends of the element may be offset from the nodes;
- transverse shear stiffness along the length of the element can be included.

CBAR simple beam element connection

The CBAR card (Table 2.6) is used to define the element connection for a simple beam element, its structural properties and the orientation of the section respect to the beam axial direction. The local reference axis defining the orientation of beam elements, which are used to discretize the lifting surfaces, reflects some basic guidelines:

- the element x_{el} axis connects the two ends of the beam element;
- the element y_{el} axis is defined to be a parallel vector respect the normal to the lifting surface;
- the element z_{el} axis is defined in the chordwise direction;

Right-hand rule is applied to define an orthogonal cartesian frame and vorsor are always normalized to unit module (called *versors*), thus giving the rotation matrix between the global reference system and the local one fixed on the beam element.

Nodes defining beam ends may have offset. This feature will be lately shown in its practical utility in defining the stick model for the entire aircraft.

Figure 2.1 shows the beam model together with its geometric parameters for the definition of nodal offsets and element coordinate system.

Label	Orient. Vector	Offset A	Offset B
GGG	Global	Global	Global
BGG	Basic	Global	Global
GGO	Global	Global	Offset
BGO	Basic	Global	Offset
GOG	Global	Offset	Global
BOG	Basic	Offset	Global
GOO	Global	Offset	Offset
BOO	Basic	Offset	Offset

Table 2.5: Beam orientation and offset definition

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
CBAR	ID	PID	N1	N2	X1	X2	X3	OFT	
	0	0	W1A	W2A	W3A	W1B	W2B	W3B	
ID	Unique beam identification number (0 < Integer < 100.000.000)								
PID	Property identification number of a PBAR entry (Integer > 0)								
N1,N2	Grid point identification numbers of connection points (Integer > 0; N1 ≠ N2)								
X _i	Components of orientation vector ν , from N1, in the displacement coordinate system at N2 (Real)								
W _i A	Components of offset vectors W_A in displacement coordinate systems at point N1 (Real)								
W _i B	Components of offset vectors W_B in displacement coordinate systems at point N2 (Real)								
OFT	Offset vector interpretation flag (character or blank), see Table 2.5 OFT is a character string code that describes how the offset and orientation vector components are to be interpreted. By default (string input is GGG or blank), the offset vectors are measured in the displacement coordinate systems at grid points A and B and the orientation vector is measured in the displacement coordinate system of grid point A. At user option, the offset vectors can be measured in an offset coordinate system relative to grid points A and B, and the orientation vector can be measured in the basic system. Any attempt to specify invalid combinations results in an input error message. For example, a value of OOO (indicating offset and orientation vectors are specified in an offset reference system) results in a fatal error since the orientation vector cannot be specified in an offset system. The offset system x -axis is defined from NA to NB. The orientation vector ν and the offset system x -axis are then used to define the z and y axes of the offset system. Structural properties are then referred to the element coordinate system								

Table 2.6: CBAR beam definition

PBAR simple beam property

The PBAR card, presented in Table 2.7, defines the structural properties of the beam element whose orientation in space is specified by the CBAR card (Table 2.6). The typical input card layout requires the specification of

- total resistant area of the beam cross section, A ;
- material of the beam element, whose mechanical characteristics are specified in the material card (Table 2.4);
- area moments of inertia respect to element reference frame y_{el}, z_{el} ;
- torsional constant J ;
- non structural mass density; more details are later provided;
- stress recovery coefficients;
- area factors of shear.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
PBAR	PID	MID	A	I1	I2	J	NSM		
	C1	C2	D1	D2	E1	E2	F1	F2	
	K1	K2	I12						
PID		Property identification number (Integer > 0)							
MID		Material identification number (Integer > 0)							
A		Area of bar cross section (Real)							
I1,I2,I12		Area moments of inertia (Real; $I1 \geq 0.0, I2 \geq 0.0, I1 \cdot I2 > I1^2$)							
J		Torsional constant (Real)							
NSM		Nonstructural mass per unit length (Real)							
C_i, D_i, E_i, F_i		Stress recovery coefficient (Real; Default = 0.0). The stress recovery coefficients $C1$ and $C2$, etc., are the y and z coordinates in the bar element coordinate system of a point at which stresses are computed. Stresses are computed at both ends of the bar (see Figure 2.1)							
K1,K2		Area factor for shear (Real or blank). The transverse shear stiffnesses per unit length in Planes 1 and 2 (see Figure 2.1) are $K1 \cdot A \cdot G$ and $K2 \cdot A \cdot G$, respectively, where G is the shear modulus. The default values for $K1$ and $K2$ are infinite; in other words, the transverse shear flexibilities are set equal to zero							

Table 2.7: PBAR beam property definition

The mechanical properties, defined by means of GUESS, are necessary to correctly define the stiffness matrix for each element, which is assembled into the global stiffness matrix for the structure under investigation. It is extremely important to underline that the mechanical characteristics are referred to the considered sectional axis. As already pointed

out in the inputs of CBAR card, the orientation for the actual section is represented by the ν vector (see Section 2.1.3) in order to construct the element reference frame. Therefore, with the same notation introduced in Figure 2.1 and 2.2 for a *semi-monocoque* section, the area moments of inertia respect to the element reference frame, as specified in the PBAR card, are equivalent to:

$$\begin{aligned} I1 &= I_{z_{el}z_{el}} \\ I2 &= I_{y_{el}y_{el}} \\ I12 &= I_{z_{el}y_{el}} \\ J &= I_{x_{el}x_{el}} \end{aligned}$$

The computation of area moments of inertia, in the section reference frame, relates to the geometrical properties of the structural members, which are assumed to carry the load and have been sized by GUESS structural estimation tool. Indeed, the structural mass does not represent the total mass of the vehicle, just a fraction of it, since additional masses to account for painting weights, wing fuel tanks and several other items later explored might be introduced in a faithful finite element model of the aircraft. Therefore it is extremely important to correctly define all non-structural masses, namely NSM, in the PBAR card. Few examples of non-structural masses, accounted for by means of GUESS, are herein summarized (Table 2.8).

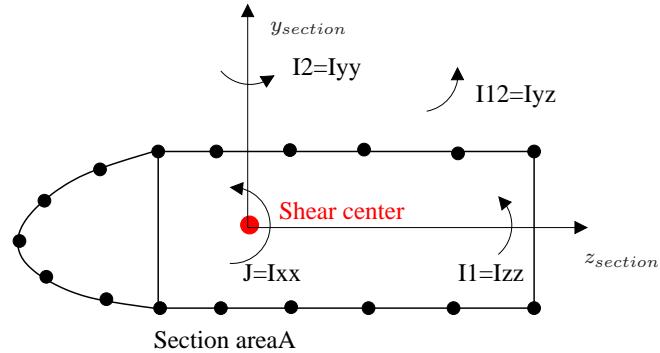


Figure 2.2: PBAR beam structural properties for a *semi-monocoque* section

PBARSIM1 simple beam property for MDO application

The PBARSIM1 card defines structural properties of the beam element whose orientation in space is specified by the CBAR card (Table 2.6). The card input parameters and its definition are shown in Table 2.9. PBARSIM1 card is an alternative approach to describe the properties of a simple beam, thus its use excludes the definition of PBAR card in the output file. The present card is exported by GUESS as the user intends to create a suitable finite element model for Multi-Disciplinary Optimization (MDO). Therfore PBARSIM1 card is automatically generated by the solver for all the lifting surfaces included in the airframe as the available option for MDO application is activated (see for more details Appendix A). Inertia properties are recovered using the informations contained in the card definition.

Fuselage

- ✓ interior and furniture: distributed in proportion to beam volume over fuselage length;
- ✓ baggage, crew and passengers: distributed in proportion to beam volume over passengers cabin length;
- ✓ pilots: distributed in proportion to beam volume over cockpit length;
- ✓ paint: distributed in proportion to beam wetted area over fuselage length;

Wing

- ✓ wing fuel tanks: distributed in proportion to beam volume over wing span;
- ✓ central fuel tank: uniformly distributed within carrythrough structure;
- ✓ paint: distributed in proportion to beam wetted area over wing span;

Vertical tail

- ✓ paint: distributed in proportion to beam wetted area over tail span;

Horizontal tail

- ✓ paint: distributed in proportion to beam wetted area over tail span;

Table 2.8: Non-structural masses definition for different components.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
PBARSIM1	PID	MID	A	I1	TC	C	H	NSM	
	C1	C2	D1	D2	E1	E2	F1	F2	

PID Property identification number (Integer > 0)
MID Material identification number (Integer > 0)
A Area of bar cross section (Real)
I1 Area moments of inertia respect local x axis (Real)
TC Thickness of the cover (Real > 0)
C Chord (Real > 0)
H Thickness of the structural box (Real > 0)
NSM Nonstructural mass per unit length (Real)
 C_i, D_i, E_i, F_i Stress recovery coefficient (Real; Default = 0.0).
See PBAR card for more details (Table 2.7).

Table 2.9: PBARSIM1 beam property definition

PBARSIM2 simple beam property for MDO application

The PBARSIM2 card defines structural properties of the beam element whose orientation in space is specified by the CBAR card (Table 2.6). The card input parameters and its definition are shown in Table 2.10. PBARSIM2 card is an alternative approach to describe the properties of a simple beam, thus its use excludes the definition of PBAR card in the output file. The present card is exported by GUESS as the user intends to create a suitable finite element model for Multi-Disciplinary Optimization (MDO). Therfore PBARSIM2 card is automatically generated by the solver for the fuselage as the available option for MDO application is activated (see for more details Appendix A). Inertia properties are recovered using the informations contained in the card definition.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
PBARSIM2	PID	MID	R	T	NSM				
	C1	C2	D1	D2	E1	E2	F1	F2	

PID Property identification number (Integer > 0)
MID Material identification number (Integer > 0)
R Geometric radius (Real > 0)
T Thickness of the shell (Real > 0)
NSM Nonstructural mass per unit length (Real)
 C_i, D_i, E_i, F_i Stress recovery coefficient (Real; Default = 0.0).
See PBAR card for more details (Table 2.7).

Table 2.10: PBARSIM2 beam property definition

PBARSIM3 simple beam property for MDO application

The PBARSIM3 card defines structural properties of the beam element whose orientation in space is specified by the CBAR card (Table 2.6). The card input parameters and its

definition are shown in Table 2.11. PBARSM3 card is an alternative approach to describe the properties of a simple beam, thus its use excludes the definition of PBAR card in the output file. The card is generated when a suitable finite element model is required for Multi-Disciplinary Optimization (MDO). Referring to Table 2.11, the card input parameters in the second line are the structural informations necessary to determine the fuselage structural concept $KCON = 1$. GUESS generates PBARSM3 card in the output file in case the fuselage is designed according the cross-sectional layout shown in Figure 1.20 (simply stiffened shell) and more detailed informations on the structural layout are required than respect the previous PBARSM2 card.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
PBARSM3	PID	MID	R	NSM					
	TS	TW	BS	BW	NFR				
	C1	C2	D1	D2	E1	E2	F1	F2	
PID	Property identification number (Integer > 0)								
MID	Material identification number (Integer > 0)								
R	Geometric radius (Real)								
NSM	Nonstructural mass per unit length (Real)								
TS	Thickness of sheet or skin element between each stiffener								
TW	Thickness of stiffener web element								
BS	Width of sheet element between each stiffener								
BW	Height of stiffener web element								
NFR	Number of intervals defined by frames within each beam								
C_i, D_i, E_i, F_i	Stress recovery coefficient (Real; Default = 0.0). See PBAR card for more details (Table 2.7).								

Table 2.11: PBARSM3 beam property definition

PBARSM4 simple beam property for MDO application

The PBARSM4 card defines structural properties of the beam element whose orientation in space is specified by the CBAR card (Table 2.6). The card input parameters and its definition are shown in Table 2.12. PBARSM4 card is an alternative approach to describe the properties of a simple beam, thus its use excludes the definition of PBAR card in the output file. The card is generated when a suitable finite element model is required for Multi-Disciplinary Optimization (MDO). Referring to Table 2.12, the card input parameters in the second line are the structural informations necessary to determine the fuselage structural concepts $KCON = 2$ through $KCON = 4$. GUESS generates PBARSM4 card in the output file in case the fuselage is designed according the cross-sectional layout shown in Figure 1.21 (Z-stiffened shell) and more detailed informations on the structural layout are required than respect the previous PBARSM2 card.

PBARSM5 simple beam property

The PBARSM5 card defines structural properties of the beam element whose orientation in space is specified by the CBAR card (Table 2.6). The card input parameters and its

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
PBARS M4	PID	MID	R	NSM					
	TS	TW	TF	BS	BW	BF	NFR		
	C1	C2	D1	D2	E1	E2	F1	F2	
PID	Property identification number (Integer > 0)								
MID	Material identification number (Integer > 0)								
R	Geometric radius (Real)								
NSM	Nonstructural mass per unit length (Real)								
TS	Thickness of sheet or skin element between each stiffener								
TW	Thickness of stiffener web element								
TF	Thickness of stiffener flange element								
BS	Width of sheet element between each stiffener								
BW	Height of stiffener web element								
BF	Width of stiffener flange element								
NFR	Number of intervals defined by frames within each beam								
C_i, D_i, E_i, F_i	Stress recovery coefficient (Real; Default = 0.0). See PBAR card for more details (Table 2.7).								

Table 2.12: PBARS M4 beam property definition

definition are shown in Table 2.13. PBARS M5 card is an alternative approach to describe the properties of a simple beam, thus its use excludes the definition of PBAR card in the output file. The card is generated when a suitable finite element model is required for Multi-Disciplinary Optimization (MDO). Referring to Table 2.13, the card input parameters in the second line are the structural informations necessary to determine the fuselage structural concepts $KCON = 5$ through $KCON = 7$. GUESS generates PBARS M5 card in the output file in case the fuselage is designed according the cross-sectional layout shown in Figure 1.22 (Truss-core sandwich) and more detailed informations on the structural layout are required than respect the previous PBARS M2 card.

2.1.4 Lumped masses

Lumped masses are used to introduce inertial loads due to non-structural masses (engines, on-board systems, landing gears, payloads, etc.). Structural mass is automatically accounted for when assembling elements mass matrix due to material density and non-structural mass density as specified through the PBAR card in field 8 (see Section 2.1.3). SMARTCAD adopts two cards to provide lumped mass informations. The card CONM1 provides the 6x6 mass matrix in a node G. The card CONM2, supported by GUESS and presented in Table 2.14, defines the data for a lumped mass in a node G exploiting the rigid body form by introducing an offset from the reference node. GUESS implements the latter because of the easiness in the definition itself; in the case of engines, the mass matrix is known and its mass matrix needs to be reported directly on the beam model if the pylon is not modelled (the pylon is assumed to be infinitely rigid). For the CONM2 card,

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
PBARSMS5	PID	MID	R	NSM					
	TF	TC	BF	H	THE	NFR			
	C1	C2	D1	D2	E1	E2	F1	F2	

PID Property identification number (Integer > 0)
MID Material identification number (Integer > 0)
R Geometric radius (Real)
NSM Nonstructural mass per unit length (Real)
TF Thickness of facing sheet in sandwich panels
TC Thickness of core material in sandwich panels
BF Width of sandwich facing sheet element
H Thickness of sandwich
THE Angle between facing and core elements in truss-core sandwich panels
NFR Number of intervals defined by frames within each beam
 C_i, D_i, E_i, F_i Stress recovery coefficient (Real; Default = 0.0).
See PBAR card for more details (Table 2.7).

Table 2.13: PBARSMS5 beam property definition

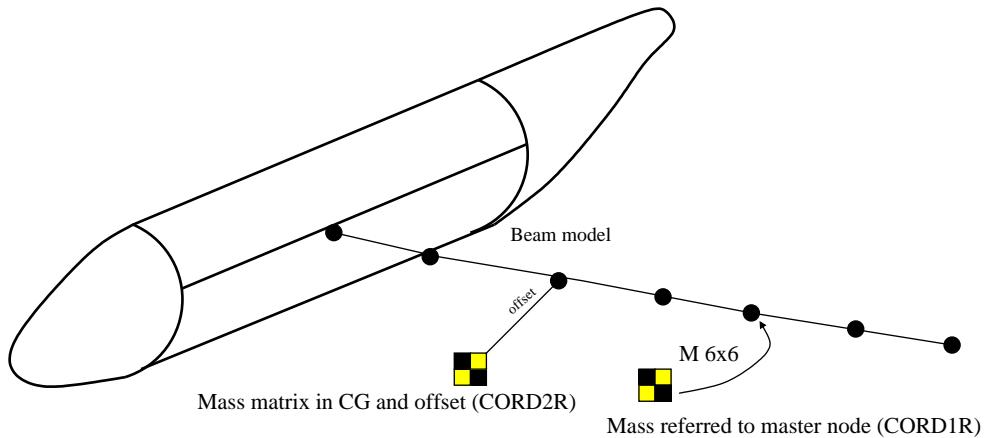


Figure 2.3: Different strategies for lumped masses

the form of the mass matrix about its center of gravity is assumed to be the following:

$$\begin{bmatrix} M & & & \\ & M & & \\ & & M & \\ & & & I_{11} & -I_{21} & -I_{31} \\ & & & -I_{21} & I_{22} & -I_{32} \\ & & & -I_{31} & -I_{32} & I_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
CONM2	ID	G	CID	M	X1	X2	X3			
	I11	I21	I22	I31	I32	I33				
ID	Element identification number for the lumped mass (Integer > 0)									
G	Grid point identification number (Integer > 0)									
CID	Coordinate system identification number to define mass matrix (Integer ≥ -1 , Default = 0)									
M	Mass value (Real)									
X_i	Offset distances from the grid point to the center of gravity of the mass in the coordinate system defined in field 4, unless CID = -1, in which case X1, X2, X3 are the coordinates, not offsets, of the center of gravity of the mass in the basic coordinate system (Real)									
I_{ij}	Mass moments of inertia measured at the mass center of gravity in the frame CID. If CID = -1, the basic coordinate system is implied and inertias are implicitly assumed to be defined in a frame parallel to the basic one (For I11, I22, and I33; Real ≥ 0.0 ; for I21, I31, and I32; Real)									

Table 2.14: CONM2 lumped rigid body mass matrix

where:

$$\begin{aligned}
 M &= \int \rho dV \\
 I_{11} &= \int \rho (x_2^2 + x_3^2) dV \\
 I_{22} &= \int \rho (x_1^2 + x_3^2) dV \\
 I_{33} &= \int \rho (x_1^2 + x_2^2) dV \\
 I_{21} &= \int \rho x_1 x_2 dV \\
 I_{31} &= \int \rho x_1 x_3 dV \\
 I_{32} &= \int \rho x_2 x_3 dV
 \end{aligned}$$

and x_1, x_2, x_3 are components of distance from the center of gravity in the frame CID, ρ is the density of the element. The negative signs for the off-diagonal terms are supplied automatically.

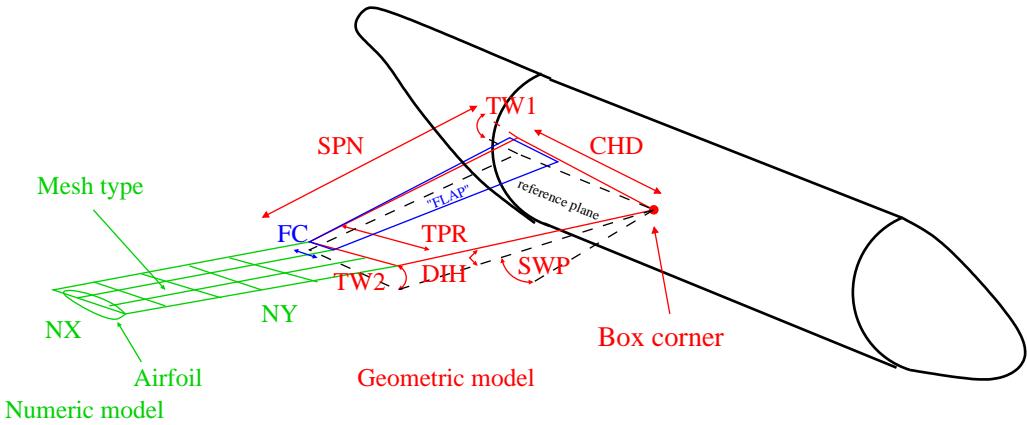


Figure 2.4: Aerodynamic model input parameters

2.2 Aerodynamic modelling

SMARTCAD provides the following two aerodynamic methods:

- a new steady solver for the Vortex Lattice Method (VLM) for TORNADO. This new solver directly recovers aerodynamic loads on each panel given the downwash boundary condition and supports vertical symmetry aerodynamic condition, thus lowering computational costs for these cases;
- a new Doublet Lattice solver used for generalized forces prediction for discrete values of reduced frequency $jk = \frac{\omega L_a}{V_\infty}$ and unsteady stability derivatives.

The former method is used for static aeroelastic analyses or for simple steady rigid aerodynamic solutions. The latter for the creation of Reduced Order Models (ROM) of the generalized forces to be used in flutter analysis. As for aerodynamic geometry, both methods share the same data structure, since they are represented by a mean lifting surface. Minor differences are present in the mesh generation since the former is based on vortex filaments, while the latter on simple chordwise doublets.

2.2.1 Lifting surface geometry and mesh definition

The CAERO1 card (see Table 2.17) is used to define all the geometric (see Table 2.15) and mesh parameters (see Table 2.16) for each box of the aerodynamic model which are required by the meshing tool coming from TORNADO Vortex Lattice code. Figure 2.4 briefly illustrates the required information set. For each box a reference lifting surface is constructed which is then discretized into a user-defined number of panels. A specific mesh-generator is called depending on if Vortex Lattice or Doublet Lattice is selected; each method requires indeed a different number and type of mesh data. The Doublet Lattice for example, does not require wake generation and needs the definition of the axis, length and midpoint for each doublet. Each surface is treated as a flat plate aligned with the flow-field. For the Vortex Lattice it is possible to define the airfoil used at the root and the tip of each box, with linear interpolation of the mean line normals between the two extremes. The user specifies one of the airfoils available in TORNADO library. For each box it is possible to define a trailing-edge control surface in the second input

Description	Label
Starting box corner	C
Root chord	CHD
Dihedral angle	DIH
Root twist angle	TW1
Tip twist angle	TW2
Sweep angle	SWP
Taper	TPR
Span	SPN
Control surface chord fraction	FC

Table 2.15: Aerodynamic geometry parameters

Description	Label
Chordwise number of panels	NX
Chordwise control number of panels	FNX
Spanwise panel number	NY
Mesh type	TYP
Root airfoil	RFO
Tip airfoil	TFO
Control name	NAM

Table 2.16: Aerodynamic mesh parameters

line by means of the ratio of its chord and the one of the box. Furthermore, a name for the control is required to identify the surface during the steady trim process. The next input lines are used to define successive neighbouring partitions sharing one side with the previous one. It is of course possible to define control surfaces in the same way as done with the first partition (the second line the input card is exactly the same for each partition).

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
CAERO1	AID	DIH	CID	NY	NX	RFO	TFO	TYP		
	CX	CY	CZ	CHD	SPN	TPR	SWP	TW1	TW2	
	FLP	FC	FNX	NAM						
Optional	DIH	NY	SPN	TPR	TFO	SWP	TW2	TYP		
Optional	FLP	FC	FNX	NAM						
AID	Element identification number (0 < Integer < 100.000.000)									
DIH	Dihedral angle (degrees)									
CID	Coordinate system identifier to define box corner coordinates									
NY	Number of spanwise boxes									
NX	Number of chordwise boxes									
RFO,TFO	Root and tip airfoil name (for VLM only); the .DAT extension will be automatically appended									
	Blank or 0 for a flat plate (or DLM used)									
TYP	Mesh type, presented in Table 2.18									
C_i	Box corner coordinates in CID coordinate system									
CHD	Box root chord									
SPN	Box span									
TPR	Box taper									
SWP	Box sweep (degrees)									
TW1,TW2	Box root/tip twist (degrees)									
FLP	Specify if partion has a control surface (0 = NO, 1 = YES); if zero value, the data on the same line will be discarded									
FC	Control surface chord fraction respect to CHD									
FNX	Control surface number of chordwise boxes									
NAM	Name associated to the control surface									

Table 2.17: CAERO1 aerodynamic box definition

2.3 Spatial coupling methods

In order to use a staggered approach as the one adopted in SMARTCAD , where two independent codes, each one optimal for its purpose, are used for each field and must interact, a spatial coupling scheme is required. The adoption of a partitioned approach [18] requires the definition of an interface scheme to exchange displacements, velocities and loads between the structural grid and the CFD boundary surfaces. The two models are typically discretised in very different, often incompatible, ways. Structural models usually present complex geometries, including many discontinuities. They are often based on schematic models, which have a long tradition in the aerospace industry, using elements with very different topologies, such as beams and plates, which usually hide the real structural geometry up to the point of making the aircraft external shape partially or completely disappear. Despite the computational power available nowadays, these simplified models will be used for some time to come in aerospace industry, especially in early design stages where NeoCASS is supposed to be adopted, so it is essential to be able to cope with them as well. On the contrary, CFD meshes require an accurate description

Index	Chord	Span
1	Linear	Linear
2	Linear	Half cosine
3	Cosine	Half cosine
4	Cosine	Cosine

Table 2.18: Available aerodynamic mesh types

of boundary surfaces. As a consequence, these two representations of the same aircraft must be made compatible in order to transfer information between them. This is a well known problem, already tackled in the literature. For general references on the problem see [19; 20].

An innovative scheme, based on a “mesh-free” Moving Least Square (MLS) method [9], is proposed in this paper to cope with incompatible situations, when the two meshes do not share a common surface.

A second approach is the Radial Basis Function (RBF) method [10], which is the state of the art in spatial coupling methods.

Both methods ensure the conservation of momentum and energy transfer between the fluid and the structure and they are suitable for the treatment of complex configurations. To guarantee the conservation between the two models, the correct strategy consists in enforcing the coupling conditions only in a weak sense, through the use of simple variational principles. Using the Virtual Works principle the energy exchange can be investigated as reported in [21].

2.3.1 Aeronodes

SMARTCAD easy the interpolation process for the spatial coupling between structural and aerodynamic meshes in the case of beam elements. The main problem relies in the way to transfer nodal rotations from the structural one-dimensional model to the two dimensional lifting surfaces which represent the aerodynamic mesh. Of course, if only displacements are transferred an important piece of information is lost with poor interpolation results (variation of angle of attack due to deformability is not taken into account). The reconstruction of rotations or torsions is well known in beam-spline structural models. The reader interested in the topic of recovering rotations for aeroelastic analysis is referred to [22] and its references.

In order to use the general purpose methods for all the types of elements available in the code, SMARTCAD introduces slave *aeronodes* as sketched in Figure 2.5.

Each aeronode has the following features:

- it is defined by means of the GRID card introduced in Section 2.1.1;
- no degree of freedom is associated;
- a master node must be defined in order to recover the motion of the slave through the RBE0 card (see Section 2.3.1);
- each slave undergo a rigid-body motion from its master, exploiting the assumption of inititively rigid section made when beam model is used;

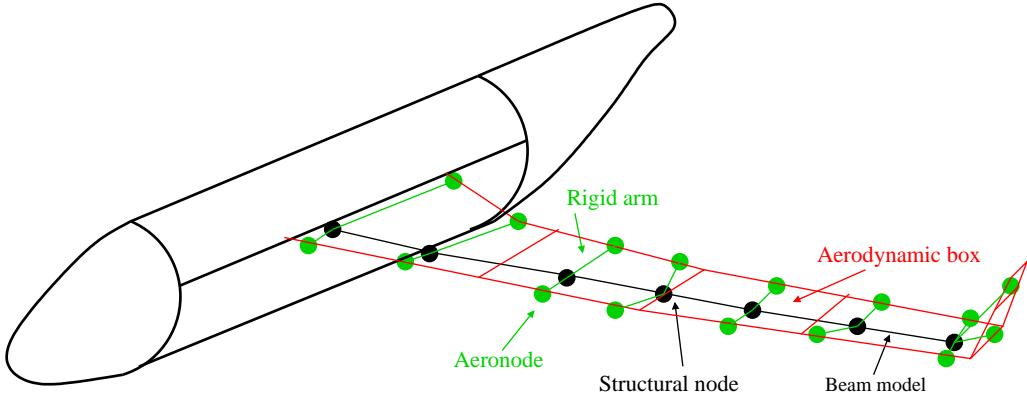


Figure 2.5: Aeronodes for aeroelastic interpolation

- it is only used for spatial coupling purposes through the SET1 card.

Master node definition for aeronodes

The card RBE0 provides the dependency information for each aeronode to its master (see Table 2.19). For each master node M a list of its slave nodes S which undergo rigid body motion during the numeric analysis. When the code determines from the structural solution the displacements u_M and the variation Δg_M of the Gibbs-Rodriguez parameters of the master node, the displacement u_S of each its aeronode, is recovered by the following relation:

$$u_S = u_M + \mathbf{R}(\Delta g_M) O_{SM}$$

where O_{SM} is the offset between the aeronode and its master and \mathbf{R} the rotation matrix.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
RBE0	ID	M	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6		
	S7	S8	etc...							
ID	Element identification number (0 < Integer < 100.000.000)									
M	Master node identification number									
S_i	Slave node identification number									

Table 2.19: RBE0 master definition for aeronodes

2.3.2 Interpolation node sets

The card SET1 (see Table 2.20) is used to defined an interpolation set of nodes which is used by one of the available spatial coupling method to transfer data between structural and aerodynamic meshes. The set defined can be composed of common structural nodes and aeronodes (see Section 2.3.1) if beam elements are used. It is up to the user to reasonably define a structural set which can faithfully guarantee a correct and physical interpolation process. An interpolation set can be used multiple times for the many

aerodynamic boxes. Considering Figure 2.5, a simple example would consist in defining a structural set composed by all the structural nodes and aeronodes for the semi-wing and the use it for the interpolation of all the spanwise aerodynamic boxes.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
SET1	ID	N1	N2	N3	N4	N5	N6	N7		
	N8	N9	etc...							

ID	Unique identification number. (Integer > 0)
N_i	List of structural grid point identification numbers for the interpolation set (structural nodes and aeronodes)

Table 2.20: SET1 interpolation set definition

2.3.3 Interpolation parameters input

SMARTCAD provides two different methods for the spatial coupling purposes: a Moving Least Squares (MLS) [9] and Radial Basis Function (RBF) [10]. Both methods lead to the construction of a sparse *interpolation matrix* \mathbf{H} which is used to transfer a data field u_s from the structural mesh to the aerodynamic mesh, thus recovering an interpolated field u_a :

$$u_a = \mathbf{H} u_s$$

The reversed transfer is realized simply by the transpose of the interpolation matrix:

$$u_s = \mathbf{H}^T u_a$$

The interpolation process may be carried out several times for each aerodynamic panel belonging to the box under to be considered. On the contrary of what usually happens for CFD solvers, many elements need to be coupled to the structural mesh when lifting surface methods are adopted. Each box is composed of panels made by nodes, having a collocation point and vortex or doublet lines. The following elements are interpolated:

- panel nodes to update the mesh following structural displacements (only for Vortex Lattice, for the Doublet Lattice this step is carried out just for illustration purposes);
- collocation points to correctly set no-flow boundary conditions;
- vortex/doublet corners to follow correctly structural displacements (vortex corners in the wake are simply moved to follow free-stream conditions).

All these steps are automatically performed by the code, simply using the same interpolation parameters for each of the three components.

Moving Least Squares (MLS) input parameters

The SPLINE1 card (see Table 2.21) is used to specify spatial coupling parameters for a list of panel belonging to an aerodynamic box AID using MLS method. In order to correctly used this tool on Unix machines, an external library is required. The card can be used to set interpolation parameter even for a restricted set of panels belonging to the patch. Usually all the box-panels are interpolated with the same settings.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
SPLINE1	ID	AID	P1	P2	SET	POLY	W	NP		
	RMX	CND								
ID	Interpolation card identifier									
AID	Aerodynamic box identifier									
P1,P2	First and last panel index interpolated using this card									
	Panels are numbered starting from inboard, with chordwise growing index									
	Usually P1=1 and P2=NTOT, where NTOT is the total number of panels belonging to the box									
SET	Structural SET1 card identifier									
POLY	Polynomial order used (1=Linear, 2=Quadratic)									
W	Weight function to be used (see Table 2.22)									
NP	Number of structural nodes used to build the compact suport									
RMX	(OPTIONAL) Maximum radius used for the compact suport									
CND	(OPTIONAL) Condition number for Singular Value Decomposition algorithm. Useful to avoid ill-conditioned problems									

Table 2.21: SPLINE1 MLS interpolation parameters definition

Weight	Type	$\Phi(\delta)$
1	Wendland C^0	$(1 - \delta)^2$
2	Wendland C^2	$(1 - \delta)^4 \cdot (4\delta + 1)$
3	Wendland C^4	$(1 - \delta)^6 \cdot (35/3\delta^2 + 18/3\delta + 1)$
4	Wendland C^6	$(1 - \delta)^8 \cdot (32\delta^3 + 25\delta^2 + 8\delta + 1)$

Table 2.22: Weight functions available for the MLS method.

Radial Basis Function (RBF) input parameters

The SPLINE2 card (see Table 2.23) is used to specify spatial coupling parameters for a list of panel belonging to an aerodynamic box AID using RBF method. As it happens with SPLINE1 card, SPLINE2 can be used to set interpolation parameter even for a restricted set of panels belonging to the patch. Usually all the box-panels are interpolated with the same settings.

SPLINE2	ID	AID	P1	P2	SET	W	RMX	CND	
ID	Interpolation card identifier								
AID	Aerodynamic box identifier								
P1,P2	First and last panel index interpolated using this card Panels are numbered starting from inboard, with chordwise growing index Usually P1=1 and P2=NTOT, where NTOT is the total number of panels belonging to the box								
SET	Structural SET1 card identifier								
W	Weight function to be used (see Table 2.24)								
RMX	Compact suport radius used. It is not used by weight 1, 2 (this method is the same available in NASTRAN [©]), 3								
CND	(OPTIONAL) Condition number for Singular Value Decomposition algorithm. Useful to avoid ill-conditioned problems								

Table 2.23: SPLINE2 RBF interpolation parameters definition

Weight	Type	$\Phi(\delta)$, $\Phi(r)$
1	Volume Spline	r
2	Thin Plate Spline	$r \log(r)$
3	Gaussian	e^{-r}
4	Euclid Hat	$\pi \cdot ((1/12r^3) - (r_{max}^2 \cdot r) + (4/3r_{max}^3))$
5	Wendland C^0	$(1 - \delta)^2$
6	Wendland C^2	$(1 - \delta)^4 \cdot (4\delta + 1)$
7	Wendland C^4	$(1 - \delta)^6 \cdot (35/3\delta^2 + 18/3\delta + 1)$
8	Wendland C^6	$(1 - \delta)^8 \cdot (32\delta^3 + 25\delta^2 + 8\delta + 1)$

Table 2.24: Weight functions available for the RBF method.

Chapter 3

GUESS validation over the semi-wing of a Boeing 747–100

A case study is proposed to validate the semi-analytical tool and estimate mass and stiffness distribution over the semi-wing of a Boeing 747–100 by means of GUESS solver. *Geometry and technology .xml* input files have been accordingly defined for the current analysis.

The geometric description of the wing planform is shortly reported in Appendix B. It is worthy noting that the wing planform is described by one single sector running over the semi-span, i.e. using a trapezoidal wing from the wing/fuselage intersection to the wing tip. The first kink defining the outboard limit of the inboard sector is set to one, since it is given as percentage of the semi-span.

The semi-wing is modelled as a cantilever wing and the exposed area, being of some importance for the following calculations as already shown in Section 1.5.3, is set equal to the wetted aerodynamic area, from wing/fuselage intersection to wing tip not considering the carrythrough portion of wing.

Even the analysis is exclusively restricted over the right semi-wing, setting the correspondent entry in the *technology* file

```
user_input.geometry.analysis_setup.beam_model.winr=1,
```

the structural sizing might be performed for both the cantilever and carrythrough portion of the wing if the carrythrough dimension is specified. The carrythrough dimension is selected to be equal to the fuselage diameter in correspondance to wing/fuselage intersection.

The present survey over the semi-wing of a Boeing 747–100, as shown in Figure 3.1, assumes that

- main landing gears are located on wings and their position is known;
- the propulsion system is located under wings; two engine nacelles are defined for each semiwing;
- the fuel is stored within the wing structural box;

To give a better interpretation of the actual lift load distribution, the approach based on Schrenk method is used, setting the entry

```
user_input.geometry.analysis_setup.lift_distribution=1.
```



(a) Airframe assembling



(b) Upper fuselage section



(c) Structural test



(d) Root carrythrough chord

Figure 3.1: Pictures of Boeing 747 structure

3.1 Loads distribution

Design loads conditions for the semi-wing under investigation are computed for a quasi-static pull-up maneuver at a given normal load factor, $n = 2.5$. Correspondent shear force and bending moment occurring at this load condition are determined by Equation (1.1) and (1.2), reported for easiness

$$F_S(y) = n K_S (L_{lift}(y) - L_{fuel}(y) - L_{eng}(y) - L_{lg}(y)) \quad (3.1)$$

$$M(y) = n K_S (M_{lift}(y) - M_{fuel}(y) - M_{eng}(y) - M_{lg}(y)) \quad (3.2)$$

The total shear force, $F_S(y)$, in Equation (3.1) and bending moment, $M(y)$, in Equation (3.2) are defined on a station-by-station basis along the structural semispan. Total shear force at the given normal load factor is determined by the sum of lift forces, $L_{lift}(y)$, and inertia forces, caused by fuel, $L_{fuel}(y)$, wing-mounted propulsion pods, $L_{eng}(y)$, and landing gears, $L_{lg}(y)$, force distribution.

Similarly, total bending moment is computed as the sum of bending moment due to lift forces, $M_{lift}(y)$, and inertia forces, accounting for fuel, wing-mounted propulsion pods and landing gears terms (respectively $M_{fuel}(y)$, $M_{eng}(y)$ and $M_{lg}(y)$).

Details on the calculations performed for the semi-wing are reported in the current section and some graphical interpretations are also given.

3.1.1 Lift load distribution

The lift load is assumed to be distributed over the wing semispan. Lift load is zero at wing tip and maximum at wing/fuselage intersection. At the generic y station, the lift load distribution of the sector outboard of y is given as:

$$L_{lift}(y) = \left(\frac{W}{S} \right) A(y) \quad (3.3)$$

while the correspondent bending moment as:

$$M_{lift}(y) = \left(\frac{W}{S} \right) A(y) C_p(y) \quad (3.4)$$

where W represents the weight of the aircraft, S the exposed-aerodynamic area of the trapezoidal wing, $A(y)$ is the area outboard of y station and $C_p(y)$ is the centroid of area $A(y)$ measured respect to the actual y station.

The weight of the aircraft, W , is set equal to the Maximum Take-Off Weight (MTOW), whose averaged value is approximately around 364.000kg. Schrenk lift distribution is chosen as an option to gain a better match between the predicted lift load and the actual aircraft lift load.

The distribution of area $A(y)$ predicted by Schrenk model is shown in Figure 3.2(a); the centroid of this area, $C_p(y)$, measured respect to the actual y station, is reported in Figure 3.2(b).

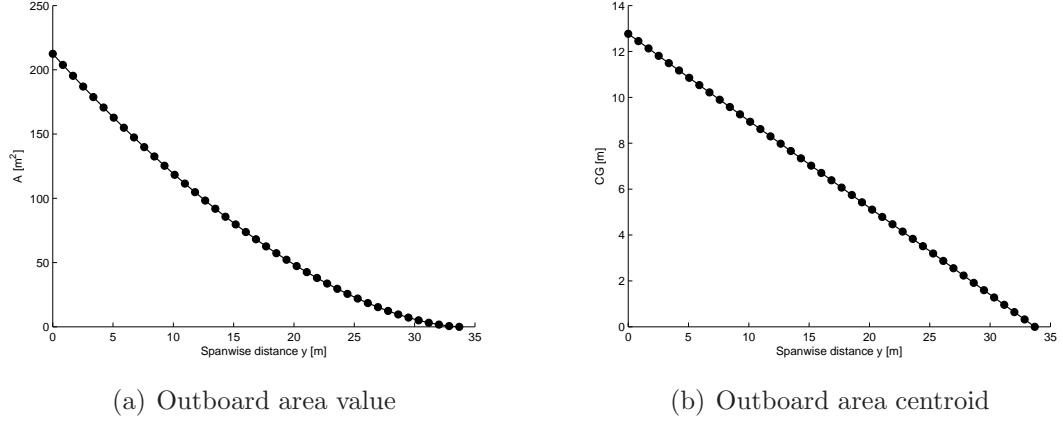


Figure 3.2: Spanwise distribution of aerodynamic wetted area

3.1.2 Fuel load distribution

As already introduced in Section 1.5.3, forces and moments are calculated from wing tip to the wing/fuselage intersection for each generic section y . Thus, it is necessary to calculate the volume of fuel, $V_F(y)$, outboard of y section and its centroid, $C_g(y)$, measured respect to y section. These calculations are easily carried out directly in the *Geometry* module when the geometric description of the aircraft is considered. Data are stored during the geometry-processing and are then available for the load module.

At the generic y station, the shear force and bending moment caused by fuel weight carried from the actual y station to the wing tip is given, respectively, by:

$$L_{fuel}(y) = \left(\frac{W_{FT}}{V_W} \right) V_F(y) \quad (3.5)$$

$$M_{fuel}(y) = \left(\frac{W_{FT}}{V_W} \right) V_F(y) C_g(y) \quad (3.6)$$

where W_{FT} is the weight of fuel carried in the wings and V_W is the total volume of wing structural box where fuel is supposed to be stored, including both semiwings.

Boeing 747–100 is equipped with wing fuel tanks, carrying a mass of fuel of about 40.000kg on both semi-wings; one additional fuel tank, namely central fuel tank, is located on the wing carrythrough structure but it does not influence the calculations for the cantilever beam herein analyzed. Dimensions of the wing fuel tanks, as percentage of the aerodynamic chord, are given in the *geometry* input file.

Figure 3.3(a) shows the available fuel volume, which is maximum at wing/fuselage intersection and null at the wing-tip. Figure 3.3(b) shows the centroid of the outboard fuel volume, measured respect to y station.

3.1.3 Engines load distribution

Since the propulsion system is located under wings, the correspondent shear force and bending moment might be computed along structural span by:

$$L_{eng}(y) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_e} h_e(y_{e_i} - y) W_{e_i} \quad (3.7)$$

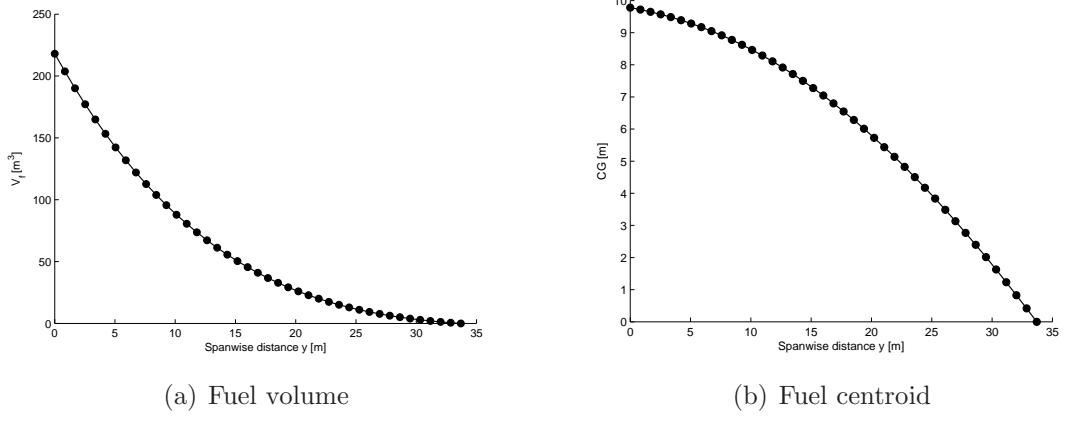


Figure 3.3: Calculation of fuel storage for inertial loads

$$M_{eng}(y) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_e} h_e(y_{e_i} - y) W_{e_i} (y_{e_i} - y) \quad (3.8)$$

where n_e is the number of engines mounted on the semispan, W_{e_i} and y_{e_i} are respectively the weight of the i^{th} engine and its location along the structural wing semispan. Force and moment are of course null outboard of the outer engine nacelle. Engine nacelles are considered as application point for loads as:

$$h_e(y_{e_i} - y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y_{e_i} \geq y \\ 0 & \text{if } y_{e_i} < y \end{cases} \quad (3.9)$$

Boeing 747–100 is equipped with four engine nacelles located under both semi-wings, whose total mass is around 20.000kg. For the cantilever wing analyzed in the study case, two wing-mounted nacelles are modelled. Location over the wing semi-span is specified in the *geometry* input file.

3.1.4 Landing gears load distribution

Since the main landing gear system is located under wings, the shear force and bending moment they introduce are computed by

$$L_{lg}(y) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_{lg}} h_{lg}(y_{lg_i} - y) W_{lg_i} \quad (3.10)$$

$$M_{lg}(y) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_{lg}} h_{lg}(y_{lg_i} - y) W_{lg_i} (y_{lg_i} - y) \quad (3.11)$$

where n_{lg} is the number of landing gears mounted on the semispan, W_{lg_i} and y_{lg_i} are respectively the weight of the i^{th} landing gear and its location along the structural wing semispan. As it is done for propulsion system, landing gears are considered concentrated loads:

$$h_{lg}(y_{lg_i} - y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y_{lg_i} \geq y \\ 0 & \text{if } y_{lg_i} < y \end{cases} \quad (3.12)$$

Location of main landing gears along the structural semi-span and the correspondent weight is known for the present study case. The mass value for the main gears is approximately 15.000kg.

3.1.5 Shear force and bending moment

For wing structural sizing, shear force and bending moment are computed using the Equations (3.1) and (3.2). The shear force caused by lift load distribution is defined by Equation (3.3), the shear force caused by fuel stored in the wing by Equation (3.5) and the total shear force by Equation (3.1). Their trend for the case under consideration are shown in Figure 3.4(a) while their correspondent bending moment are reported in Figure 3.4(b). Bending moment due to lift load distribution is computed by Equation (3.4), bending moment caused by fuel by Equation (3.6) and the total bending moment by Equation (3.2). It is worthy noting the moderate relief in shear force, thus in bending

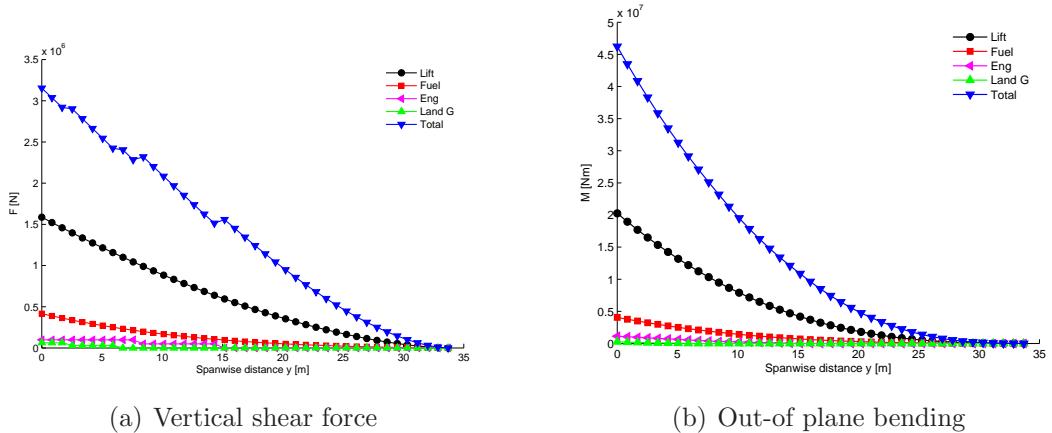


Figure 3.4: Spanwise resultant loads

moment, introduced by engines and main landing gears attached to the wing.

3.2 Structural sizing

Once the load condition is known, it is possible to carry out the wing structural sizing. Depending on the geometric and structural concept the wing is supposed to be built, the correspondent minimum gage thickness for covers t_{gC} and webs t_{gW} can be easily calculated. Besides the minimum amount of required material, analytical calculations are performed within GUESS .

The following points are defined in the *Structural* module for this study case:

- the structural concept in the entry `wing.kcon = 2` defines a wing with *unstiffened* covers and *unflanged* webs (see Table 1.13). The minimum gage thickness for covers and webs is computed, respectively, as $t_{gC} = t_g / K_{gC}$ and $t_{gW} = t_g / K_{gW}$ where K_{gC} and K_{gW} are constants depending on the wing structural concept;
- GUESS estimates the thickness t_c of covers and the thickness t_w of webs according to analytical formulas;

- the maximum thickness values for covers $t_C = \max(t_{gC}, t_c)$ and webs $t_W = \max(t_{gW}, t_w)$ are considered for the wing structural sizing.

In Figure 3.5(a), minimum gage thickness, analytical thickness and maximum thickness for covers and webs are depicted.

Weight distribution of bending and shear material is computed separately (W_{bend} and W_{shear}); the total *ideal* weight of the wing box structure is simply computed as the sum of these values (see 3.5(b)).

For the carrythrough structure, weight estimation is straightforward because the same procedure as for structural wing box is utilized. The wing carrythrough structure consists of torsion material in addition to bending and shear material. The torsion material is required to resist the twist induced due to the sweep of the wing. In the following, torsion, bending and shear material weight for the wing carrythrough structure are indicated, respectively, as $W_{torsion_C}$, W_{bend_C} and W_{shear_C} .

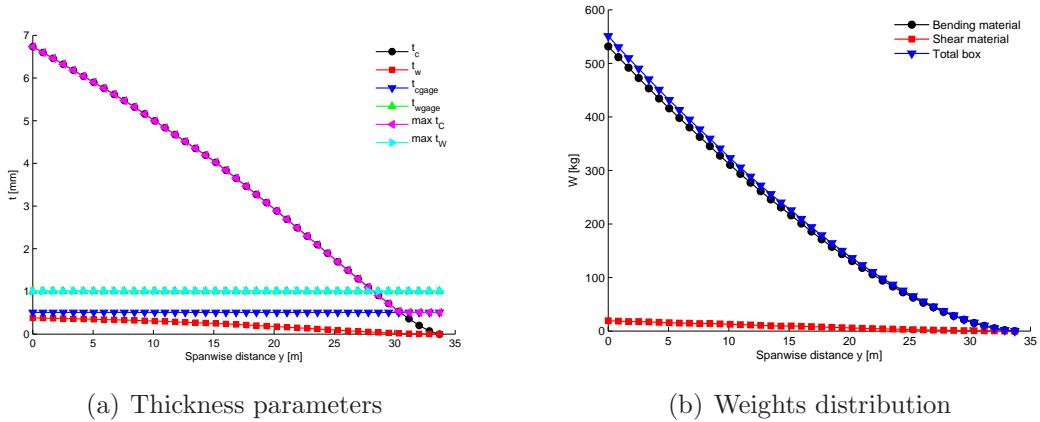


Figure 3.5: Spanwise wing properties

3.3 Sectional properties distribution

Corrected weight distributions are obtained when regression analysis is applied. A linear regression equation is defined in the entry `regression.analw` and primary, secondary and total weight distributions can be obtained as reported in Figure 3.6(a).

In the following Figures 3.6(b), 3.7(a), 3.7(b), the distribution of area, second moment of inertia and torsional constant are reported. Estimates are done firstly on the analytical sizing mesh and then are interpolated on the beam model mesh.

3.4 Validation of GUESS estimation

Weight estimation provided by GUESS is not simply limited to the evaluation of the total structural weight for the cantilever wing herein presented. Indeed, the procedure provides:

- for the structural semiwing, weight distribution of shear and bending material, separately;

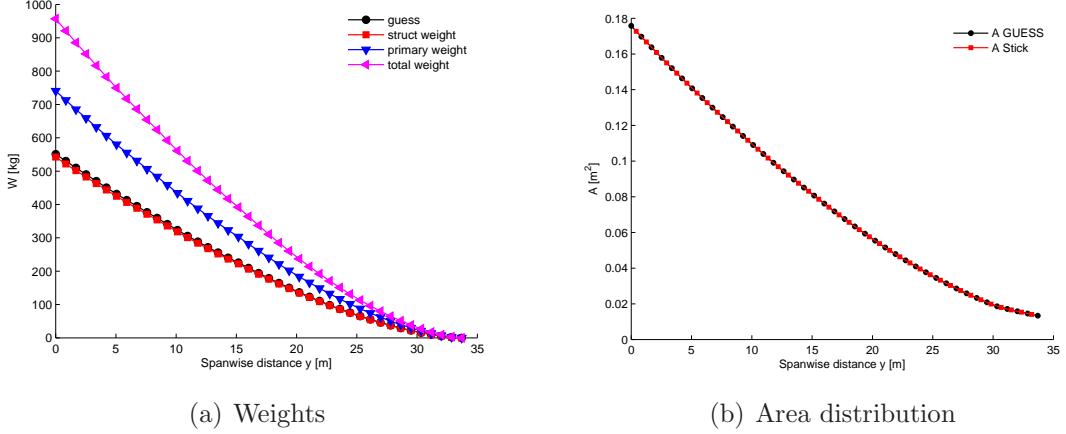


Figure 3.6: Spanwise wing properties

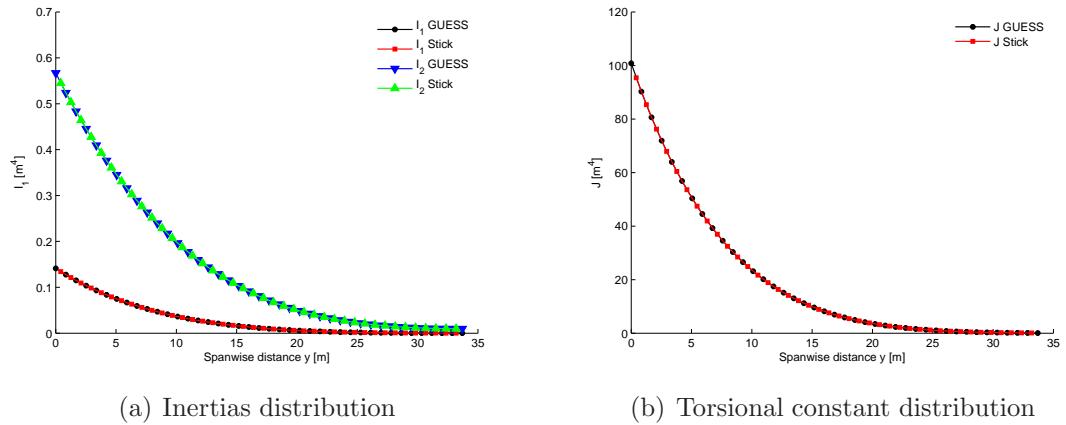


Figure 3.7: Spanwise wing properties

- for the carrythrough structure, weight of shear, torsion and bending material, separately.

Since a detailed weight estimation is available in NASA-PDCYL code [1] accounting for each single weight contribution, GUESS may be compared with this reference. It is assumed that the comparison is performed for the load-carrying weights, which are directly computed from the analytical procedure and not corrected using regression analysis.

Table 3.1 reports the weight of shear material, W_{shear} , and bending material, W_{bend} , for the cantilever wing; load-carrying weight of structural semiwing box is the sum of shear and bending weight, $W_{tot} = W_{shear} + W_{bend}$.

Again in Table 3.1, weight comparison for the carrythrough structure is reported. Weight of shear material, W_{shear_C} , bending material, W_{bend_C} and torsion material, $W_{torsion_C}$, are summed to obtain the load-carrying weight of the carrythrough structure W_{tot_C} .

It is worthy noting that the carrythrough weight represents the weight of the complete carrythrough structure. Thus, the load-carrying weight of the wings is the sum of both semi-wings and the carrythrough structure $W_{wings} = 2 \cdot W_{tot} + W_{tot_C}$.

	NASA-PDCYLIN	GUESS
structural wing box		
W_{shear} [kg]	401	345
W_{bend} [kg]	8564	8700
W_{tot} [kg]	8965	9045
carrythrough structure		
W_{shear_C} [kg]	127	140
W_{bend_C} [kg]	3625	3787
$W_{torsion_C}$ [kg]	673	720
W_{tot_C} [kg]	4425	4648

Table 3.1: Boeing 747–100: load-carrying weights.

3.4.1 Second conclusions

Although the first conclusions given in Section 1.8.3 for six different aircrafts presented the Boeing 747–100 as the vehicle whose structural estimation was the most far from the actual weights, the comparison presented in Table 3.1 underlines a good overall agreement between the structural sizing performed by GUESS and the reference values provided in reference [1], which is the source for the reference values indicated as NASA-PDCYLIN in the above comparison.

Both carrythrough structure and structural wing box have been analyzed for the semi-wing of a Boeing 747–100. The biggest error in the above comparison concerns the weight estimation for shear material in the cantilever wing, which is around 13%. Indeed the estimation of the load-carrying weight for the cantilever wing estimated by GUESS is less than 1% far from the reference value.

Similarly for the carry-through structure. The biggest difference in the shear material weight estimation consists of an error around 10%. Due to the small fraction of shear material required in the carry-through structure, the load-carrying weight is 5% greater than the reference values.

Even not modelling the actual wing by means of a detailed geometric description, remember the planform is still described by a trapezoidal wing, the predicted weights overlap the actual weights. The overall good agreement now achieved is performed by a revisited geometric description, which is slightly different in few parameters respect the ones presented in the reference. The aircraft description has been updated to the *geometric* input file layout adopted by SimSAC and misleading parameters given in the reference have been easily adjusted.

At this stage, GUESS has shown to give accurate and fast semi-analytical prediction of weights and stiffness distribution. Additional routines are used to create an output file in ASCII format, representing the beam model structural and aerodynamic mesh. Thus, GUESS is easily integrated in a more complex environment and actually is successfully adapted to give a first structural sizing estimations, later refined by multi-disciplinary optimisation tools.

3.5 Generation of the beam model for aeroelastic analysis

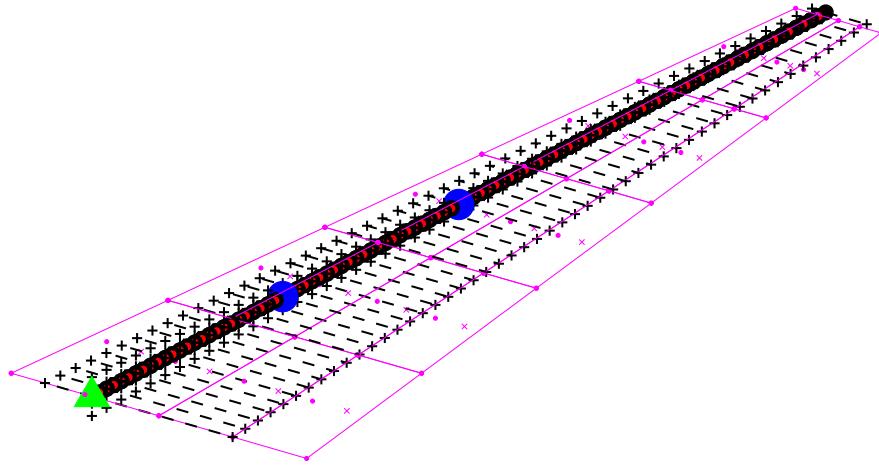


Figure 3.8: Beam model for the B747 semiwing

Figure 3.8 gives a brief overview of the beam model generated for the numeric aeroelastic solver. It is possible to node all the elements which are required to carry out the aeroelastic analysis:

- beam elements (black segments);
- nodes (red points);
- lifting surfaces for Vortex Lattice or Doublet Lattice Method (magenta);
- lumped masses (blue points);
- constraints (green triangle);
- rigidly linked point to structural beam nodes for aeroelastic spatial coupling (black crosses)

Of course, structural data such as material and beam mechanical properties are available in the generated output file. All the parameters for the aeroelastic spatial coupling method are defined to successfully couple the aerodynamic to the structural beam model. Some of parameters required to rule the creation of the beam model can be modified in the `Stick_model` section of the *technology* file (see Appendix A). Many other parameters are set by default by the software and can be manually modified in the output file. Freedom is left to the user to add/modify the output file with further parameters and solver-settings for the aero-structural module SMARTCAD available in NeoCASS or the commercial code NASTRAN[©].

Chapter 4

Practical demonstration of Structural Sizing by means of GUESS

4.1 TransCRuiser – TCR

The application of the structural solver is performed over the conceptual design of a target aircraft, named TransCRuiser (TCR), as most of the work packages in SimSAC project is focused on this test-case.

The present study-case shows the reliability to use GUESS computer code as structural solver for the first structural estimation in preliminary design phases and pre-processor for the generation of suitable finite elements model in order to successfully perform further analysis. The mission profile for TCR is sketched in Figure 4.1 and the design specifications are given in Table 4.1.

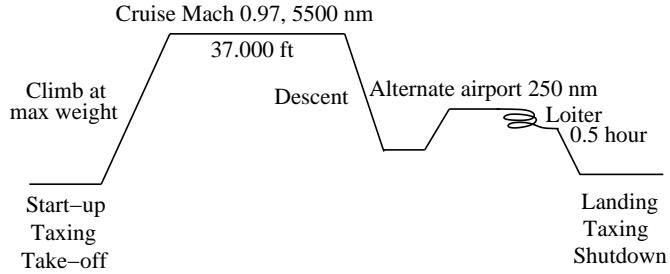


Figure 4.1: Mission profile for TCR.

Cruise Mach	0.97 at altitude ≥ 37.000 ft
Range	5.500 nm + 250 nm to alternate airport + 0.5 hour loiter at 1.500 ft
Max payload	22.000 Kg
Passengers	200
Crew	2 pilots, 6 cabin attendants
Take-off distance	2.700 m at max W_{TO} altitude 2.000 ft
Landing distance	2.000 m at max W_L altitude 2.000 ft max payload and normal reserves
Powerplant	2 turbofans
Certification	JAR25
Maneuvering load factors	2.5, -1
Max load factors	3.1, -1.7

Table 4.1: Design specifications for TCR.

The main purpose of the present section is to provide a structural sizing estimation of the TCR and compare weight and balance estimations using classical methodologies with the new structural tools developed within GUESS computer code. As the tool performs a great variety of calculations, in the following pages some key points will be given to better understand the procedures implemented within the tool.

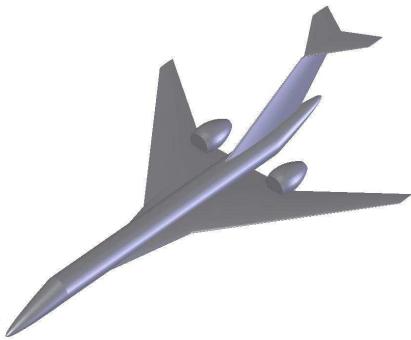
A survey on the influence of the available structural concepts provided by the analytical tool is performed over fuselage and main lifting surface and different structural configurations are obtained. The structural design options are compared by means of the total weight, either for fuselage and for wing. Using the concepts introduced in Section 1.6.2,

the solver is able to determine a detailed description of the fuselage cross-sectional geometry, not only providing a smeared equivalent thickness for the shell, as later detailed.

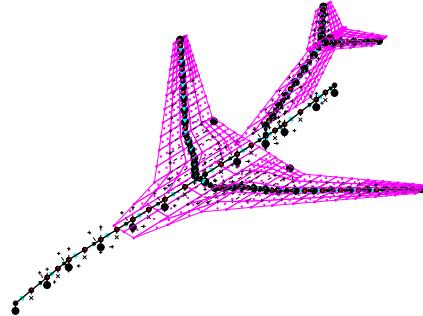
4.1.1 Structural sizing and comparison

After the first structural sizing performed by *Weight and Balance* module (W&B) on the TCR airplane, GUESS is applied to refine the weight prediction and to give a first solution of stiffness and load bearing material distribution. Once this last is available, an airframe model using beam elements is automatically generated to be used by the numerical aero-structural module SMARTCAD.

Figure 4.2(a) shows the generated CAD model. The stick model generated by GUESS is depicted in Figure 4.2(b). It is worthy noting the representation of fuselage by means of beam elements and the absence of aerodynamic panels to simulate the aerodynamics.



(a) Generated CAD model.



(b) Generated GUESS model.

Figure 4.2: Transonic cruiser.

Starting from an estimation of a total fuel amount of 92.000kg, distributed between integrated wing tanks and fuselage central tank, the MTOW prediction performed by W&B module is 220.035 kg. For the purpose of GUESS structural solver, the user shall define the structural concepts the fuselage and lifting surfaces are supposed to be designed. For the current analysis the following have been selected:

- the structural concept for fuselage have been set to **kcon=4**, namely Z-stiffened shell;
- the structural concepts for lifting surfaces have been set to **kcon=4**, namely truss-stiffened cover;

After the structural sizing obtained by means of GUESS, the new MTOW weight for the TCR is 225.220 kg. As detailed in Section 1.7, this weight is determined considering two regressions on load-bearing material which is numerically determined for the considered aircraft under physical basis. Furthermore, the position of the center of gravity and the aircraft total weight for the MTOW configuration are reported in Table 4.2 and compared with the previous estimations of W&B.

	x_{MTOW} [m]	$MTOW$ [kg]
W&B	36.39	220.035
GUESS	36.53	225.220

Table 4.2: TCR weight survey

Comparison of the second moment of inertia measured respect the center of gravity for the MTOW configuration is reported in Table 4.3.

	I_{xx} [kg m^2]	I_{yy} [kg m^2]	I_{zz} [kg m^2]
W&B	$9.768 \cdot 10^6$	$2.041 \cdot 10^7$	$2.824 \cdot 10^7$
GUESS	$8.315 \cdot 10^6$	$2.243 \cdot 10^7$	$2.909 \cdot 10^7$

Table 4.3: TCR inertia survey

Table 4.4 compares the results by W&B with the new estimation of the structural components determined by GUESS, respectively the weight of the load-bearing material and the two steps of regression to account for secondary airframe components as introduced above.

Component	GUESS [kg] bearing material	GUESS [kg] primary weight	GUESS [kg] total	W&B [kg]
Wing	15.494	21.158	27.345	24.904
Horizontal tail	722	986	1.275	1.034
Vertical tail	1.378	1.882	2.432	2.899
Fuselage	11.148	15.580	21.206	20.931

Table 4.4: TCR weight survey for each single component.

As expected, the results computed by GUESS show an overall good agreement with the first estimations performed by W&B. Thus, the new structural sizing tool performs a consistent estimation along with extracting the mechanical properties that are not available in W&B module. To define the weights and inertias for the TCR airplane, the load-bearing material weights for the structural components, as reported in the above table, and the non-structural masses, as recovered by W&B module, have been considered.

Non-structural masses distribution

The main difficulty in this phase is the creation of a stick model which can also faithfully represent the assumed mass distribution of the payload and non-structural mass. Rep-

resenting concentrated items like engines, auxiliary tanks and landing gears by means of lumped masses rigidly attached to the main structure is trivial. Introducing distributed masses like the fuel in the wing-box, paint, passengers, furniture and especially the secondary structural weight which is only predicted as a value by the regression curve, is more complicated.

The following guidelines have been adopted within the solver:

- secondary structural masses (obtained by regression analysis within GUESS) are simply placed as lumped masses on the nodes of the mesh proportionally to the volume of the beams;
- non-structural masses (estimated by W&B module) are considered to be distributed masses per unit length.

Distribution of non-structural masses along fuselage lenght have been reported in Figure 4.3. Each single item is supposed to be distributed over a specific portion of the total fuselage length and it is distributed using an appropriate criteria. It is worthy noting that non-structural masses distributed over fuselage lenght are:

1. interior, over fuselage length in proportion to beam volume;
2. furniture, over fuselage length in proportion to beam volume;
3. baggage, over passenger compartment length in proportion to beam volume;
4. crew, over passenger compartment length in proportion to beam volume;
5. passengers, over passenger compartment length in proportion to beam volume;
6. pilots, over cockpit length in proportion to beam volume;
7. paint, over fuselage length in proportion to beam wetted area;

Non-structural mass for all lifting surfaces, wing and tails, include paint weight which is distributed in proportion to the beam wetted area. No additional masses are considered for the tail planes.

For the main lifting surface, wing fuel tanks and central fuel tank are accounted for, recovering the estimations performed by W&B module. The following are adopted:

- fuel stored in wing tanks is distributed in proportion to beam volume over the cantilever wing, from wing-fuselage intersection to wing tip;
- fuel stored in central tank is uniformly distributed over the wing carrythrough structure.

Figure 4.4 represents the distribution of non-structural masses over the structural beam for the semiwing, from body center-line to wing tip. It is worthy noting that fuel in central tank is located in correspondence of the carrythrough structure, while the wing fuel tanks are smeared on the structural span, from wing-fuselage intersection to wing tip. Paint weight is distributed in proportion to beam wetted area over the structural span excluding the contribution from the carrythrough structure as it is internal to the fuselage and the more significant contribution from fuselage have been already accounted for.

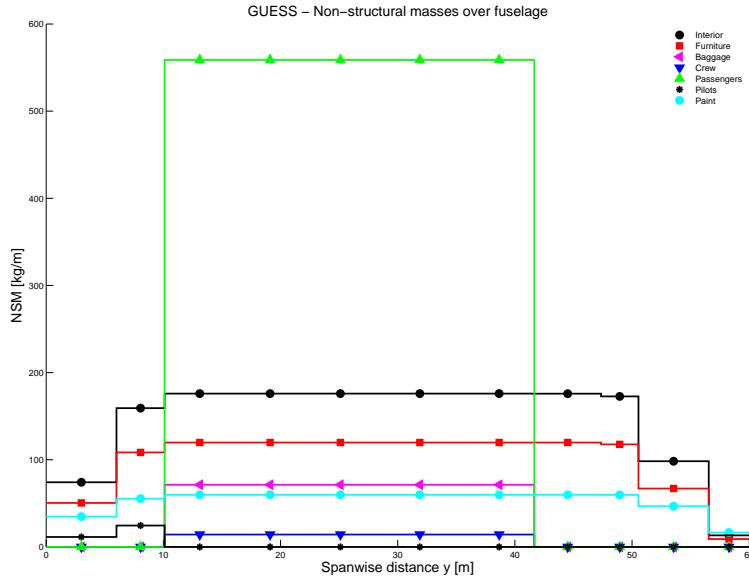


Figure 4.3: Non-structural masses per unit length distributed over fuselage.

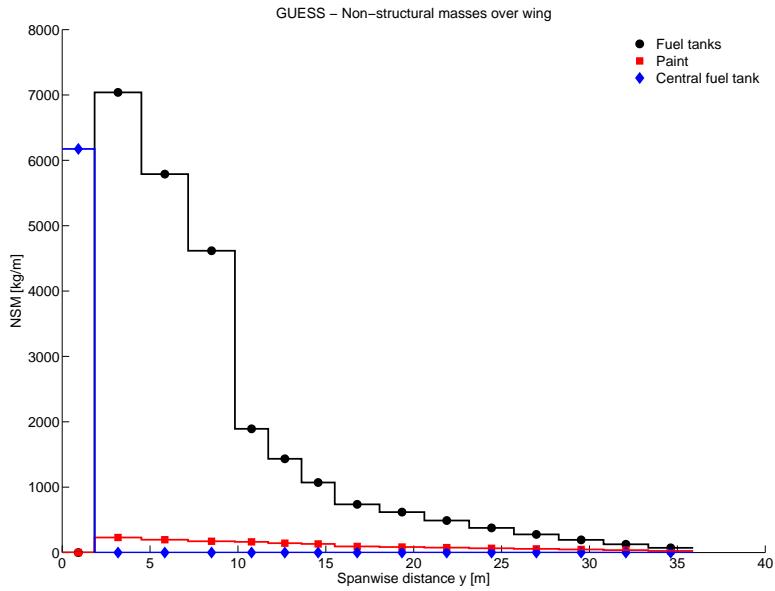


Figure 4.4: Non-structural masses per unit length distributed over wing semispan.

Stress resultant along fuselage length

The present section gathers together the results of the loads used to perform the structural sizing for the fuselage.

The stress resultant in the axial direction caused by longitudinal moment is computed on a station-by-station basis and it is reported in Figure 4.5. Inertia loads distribution and lifting forces from wing and tails are accounted for.

Figure 4.6 represents the stress resultant in the axial direction caused by the propulsion

system. The TCR aircraft is equipped with wing-mounted propulsion pods, as clearly shown in Figure 4.2(a). Inertia loads due to the propulsion pods are compressive ahead of the intersection between the structural beams representing the fuselage and the wing structural box, and tensile behind it.

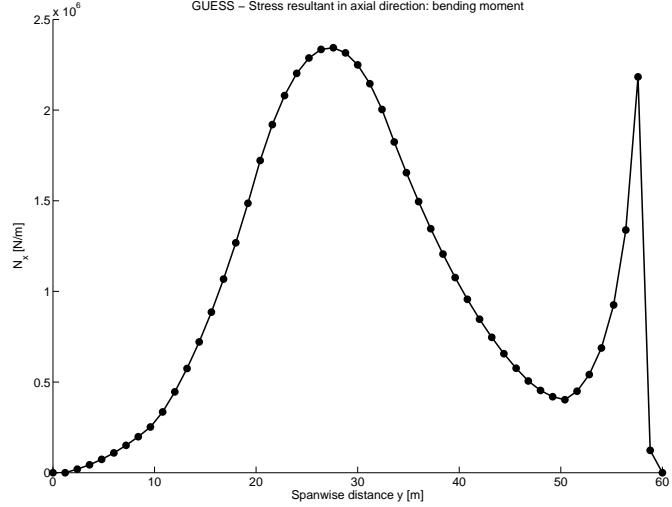


Figure 4.5: Stress resultant in axial direction caused by bending moment.

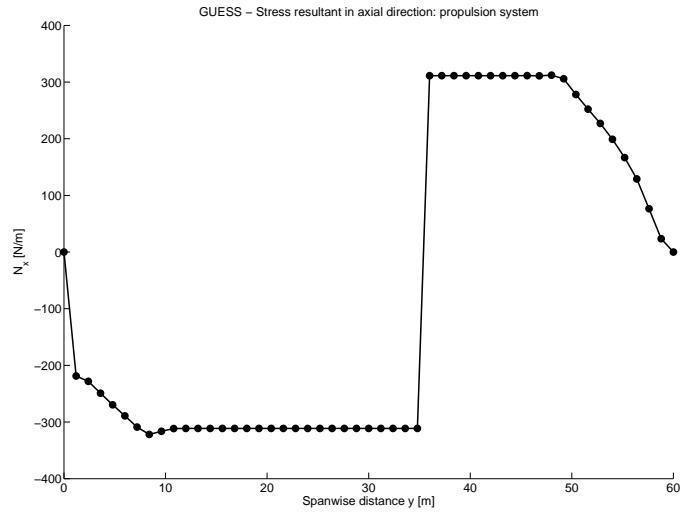


Figure 4.6: Stress resultant in axial direction caused by propulsion system.

The effects of internal pressure in passenger compartment is shown in Figures 4.7 through 4.8. The former represents the stress resultant in the axial direction and the latter in the radial (hoop) direction.

Combining the loads in the axial direction using the methodology discussed in Section

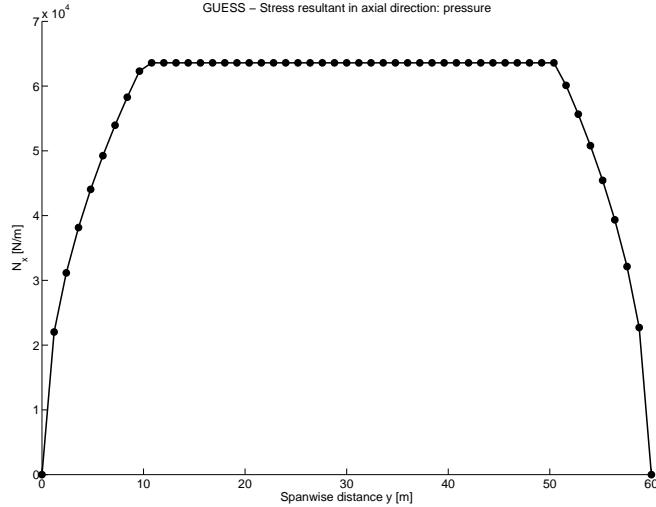


Figure 4.7: Stress resultant in axial direction caused by internal pressure.

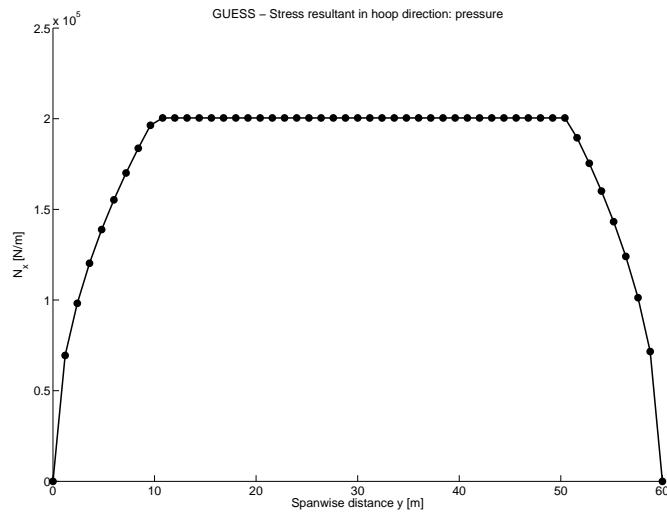


Figure 4.8: Stress resultant in hoop direction caused by internal pressure.

1.5.1, the total compressive and tension stress resultant in the axial direction is computed and reported in Figure 4.9.

4.1.2 Aeroelastic model

GUESS generates the beam model for the airframe as the structural sizing procedure has been previously performed. The stick mesh model is automatically created within the solver and exported in the output file in ASCII format. A 3-dimensional representation is shown in Figure 4.2(b) beside the CAD-model. It represents the aero-structural mesh created for the aeroelastic and MDO procedures. Since GUESS has a complete

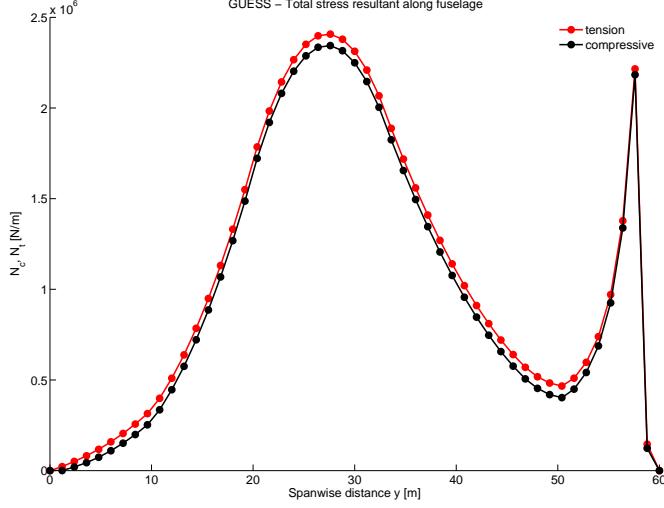


Figure 4.9: Total stress resultant along fuselage structural span.

knowledge of the parameters which rule the geometry of the aircraft, it is also possible to create a Vortex/Doublet Lattice mesh. Also, GUESS creates stress-recovery points on the boundary limits of every beam (along lifting surfaces wing-box or fuselage diameter) and transfers to SMARTCAD all its database in terms of material and beam properties, nodes, connectivities, aerodynamic mesh and control surfaces position. A planar view of the TCR aircraft is depicted in Figure 4.10. As pointed out in the Appendix A and in more detail in Reference [23], beams may have offset.

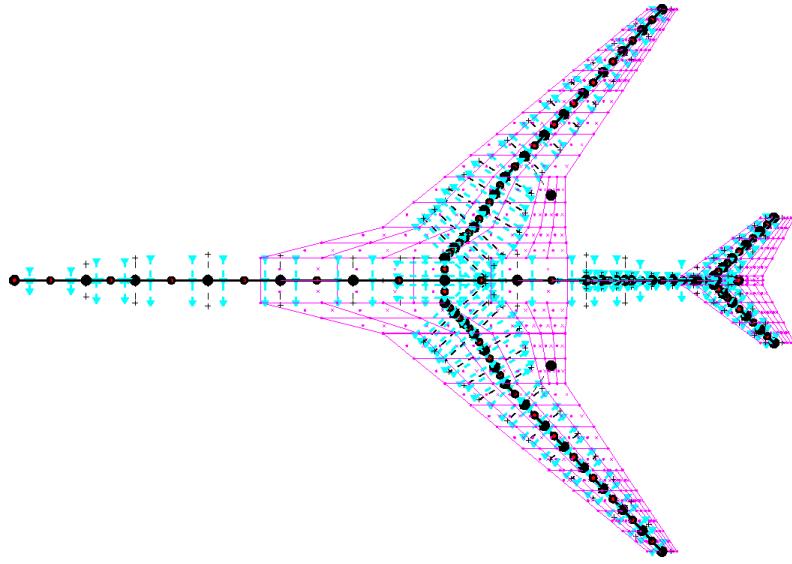


Figure 4.10: Planar view of TCR.

Figure 4.11 shows the use of offset for the fuselage beams in order to get a closed cruxiform scheme for the airframe.

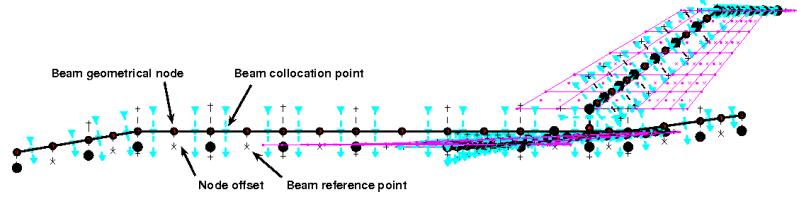


Figure 4.11: Fuselage beam model offset for TCR.

A detailed view of the main wing for the TCR is given in Figure 4.12. The aileron is attached to the tip and expands on the outboard panel. It is worthy noting the dimensions of the wing box as limited by the front and rear spar location. For the TCR, fuel is stored within the wing box.

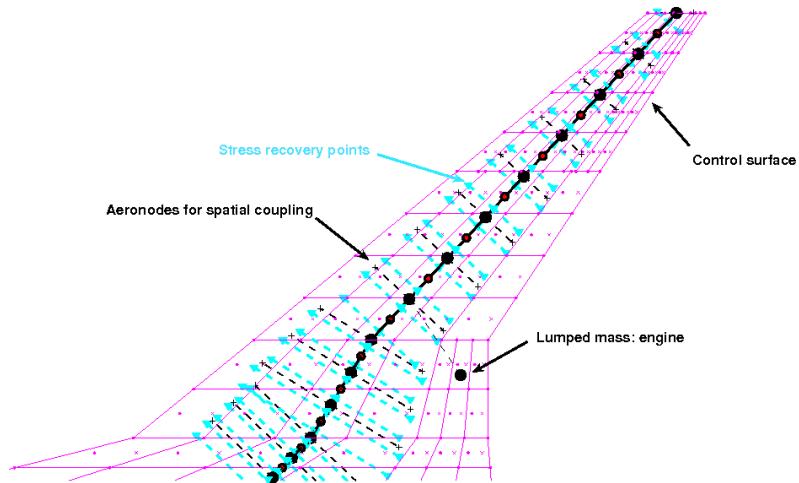


Figure 4.12: Main wing for TCR.

4.1.3 Fuselage structural concepts survey

This section gathers the results of a structural survey performed over the fuselage of the TCR airplane. For each single analysis, it is assumed that fuselage is designed according different criteria and all the seven structural concepts available within the structural solver have been considered. As discussed in detail in Section 1.6.1, each structural concept is designed to be optimum for a particular loading conditions, thus a variety of structural design solutions are expected.

Fuselage is designed using the concepts summarized in Table C.1 and C.2, Appendix C. The results herein presented are summarized considering the following three cross-sectional geometry:

1. simply stiffened shell, for structural concept 1;
2. Z-stiffened shell, for structural concept 2 through 4;
3. Truss-core sandwich shell, for structural concept 5 through 7.

The geometric parameters defining the cross-section design have been computed for the section in which the loading condition is the most critical. As the loads are independent on the structural concepts, the geometric parameters are referred to the same cross-section. In the *technology* input file, the entry

`user_input.material_property.fus.kcon`

is edited selecting the correspondent structural option available (1 through 7). The fuselage total weight is reported for each single structural concepts. It is worthy noting that fuselage total weight accounts for all members of the body, including the structural and primary weights. It does not include passenger accommodations, such as seats, lavatories, kitchens, stowage and lightning, the electrical system, flight and navigation system, alighting gear, fuel and propulsion system, hydraulic and pneumatic system, communication system, cargo accommodations, flight deck accommodations, air conditioning equipment, the auxiliary power system and emergency system.

Simply stiffened shell

Fuselage structural concept 1 defines a simply stiffened shell. The typical geometry layout and parameters are defined in Figure 4.13. The geometry parameters computed in the section in which the loading condition is the most critical and the total fuselage weight are summarized in Table 4.5.

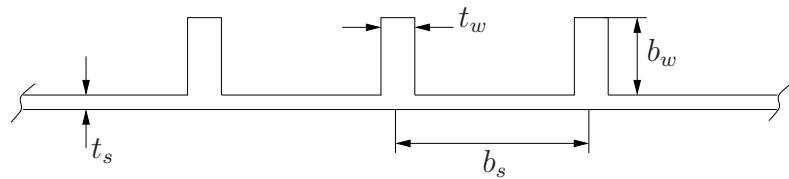


Figure 4.13: Typical unflanged, integrally stiffened shell geometry.

Structural concept	t_s	t_w	b_s	b_w	weight
kcon	[mm]	[mm]	[mm]	[mm]	[kg]
1	2.6	5.8	104.7	68.1	20696

Table 4.5: Fuselage design based on simply stiffened shell geometry.

Z-stiffened shell

Fuselage structural concept 2 through 4 defines a Z-stiffened shell. The typical geometry layout and parameters are defined in Figure 4.14. The geometry parameters computed in the section in which the loading condition is the most critical and the total fuselage weight are summarized in Table 4.6. The comparison of total weight and inertias above presented have been performed assuming the fuselage to be designed with Z-stiffened shell geometry, namely structural concept 4.

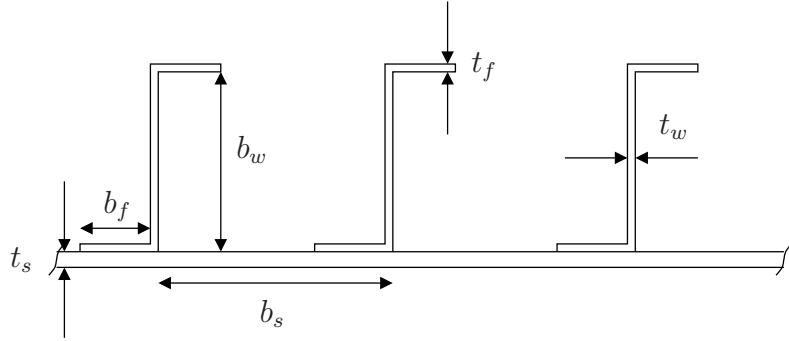


Figure 4.14: Typical Z-stiffened shell geometry.

Structural concept	t_s	t_f	t_w	b_s	b_f	b_w	weight
kcon	[mm]	[mm]	[mm]	[mm]	[mm]	[mm]	[kg]
2	2.5	2.7	2.7	77.0	20.1	67.0	20299
3	3.4	3.1	3.1	103.2	18.0	59.9	18820
4	4.0	2.4	2.4	107.2	193.0	64.3	21206

Table 4.6: Fuselage design based on Z-stiffened shell geometry.

Truss-core sandwich shell

Fuselage structural concept 5 through 7 defines a truss-core sandwich shell. The typical geometry layout and parameters are defined in Figure 4.15. The geometry parameters computed in the section in which the loading condition is the most critical and the total fuselage weight are summarized in Table 4.7.

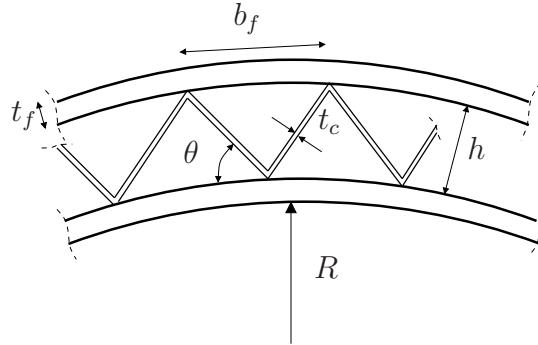


Figure 4.15: Truss-core sandwich geometry

4.1.4 Wing structural concepts survey

GUESS provides six different structural concepts for lifting surfaces, summarized in Table C.3 and C.4, Appendix C. This section presents the influence of each structural option on wing structural design. Three concepts feature unstiffened covers while the remaining feature truss-stiffened covers. Both cover configurations use webs which can be Z-stiffened, unflanged or trusses. It is then possible to include

Structural concept	t_f	t_c	b_f	b_c	h	θ	weight
kcon	[mm]	[mm]	[mm]	[mm]	[mm]	[°]	[kg]
5	1.6	1.5	43.1	45.9	40.5	62	30191
6	2.1	1.4	55.6	48.5	39.7	55	34235
7	1.8	1.8	56.8	40.2	28.4	45	26161

Table 4.7: Fuselage design based on truss-core sandwich shell geometry.

1. structural concept 1 through 3 into unstiffened covers category;
2. structural concept 4 through 6 into truss-stiffened covers category;

The survey is performed exclusively over the main lifting surface, namely the wing, and not over the horizontal and vertical tails. In the *technology* input file, the entry

`user_input.material_property.wing.kcon`

is edited selecting the correspondent structural option available (1 through 6). The wing total weight is reported for each single structural concepts. It is worthy noting that wing total weight includes wing box and primary weight items in addition to high-lift devices, control surfaces and access items. It does not include the propulsion system, fuel system, and thrust reverses; the electrical system; alighting gears; hydraulic and pneumatic system; anti-icing devices; emergency system.

Unstiffened covers

The results of the analysis for the wing design based on unstiffened covers and different webs layout are summarized in Table 4.8.

Structural concept	Total weight
kcon	[kg]
1	31104
2	30122
3	30962

Table 4.8: Wing design based on unstiffened covers.

Truss-stiffened covers

The results of the analysis for the wing design based on truss-stiffened covers and different webs layout are summarized in Table 4.9. The comparison above presented have been performed assuming the lifting surfaces to be designed using truss-stiffened covers, namely structural concept 4.

Structural concept	Total weight
kcon	[kg]
4	27345
5	22742
6	23167

Table 4.9: Wing design based on truss-stiffened covers.

Chapter 5

A Doublet-Lattice Method for subsonic flows

The DLM is in use worldwide for flutter and dynamic analysis of aircraft at subsonic speeds. It is a classic tool for aeroelastic calculation which makes it de-facto the standard method for aeroelasticity in aerospace industry. The chapter presents the development of a computer program in MATLAB[©] language for modeling oscillating interfering lifting surfaces in subsonic flows. Approximate solutions from the linearized formulation are obtained by idealizing the surface as a set of lifting elements which are short line segments of acceleration-potential doublets. The classic well-known hypothesis assumed for irrotational and isoentropic flows are considered. The introduction of the acceleration potential enables to directly express a relationship between the downwash and the difference of pressure coefficient between the upper and lower side of a lifting surface. In this case it is correct to speak of ΔCP rather than CP to be more correct. With the DLM, no effort is undertaken to model the wake which is assumed as a streamline which cannot sustain any load; the drawback of this formulation respect to the velocity potential is given by a more complicated relation which accounts for the influence of all the singularities in a given point. This final contribution of velocity in a point is given by the integration along the aircraft surface of the so-called kernel function K . The load on each element is determined by satisfying normal velocity boundary conditions at a set of points on the surface. The present chapter describes two approximations for the variation of the numerator of the incremental oscillatory kernel function across the span of the box bound vortex; the quadratic approximation was presented firstly by Albano and Rodden in 1969 (Reference [8]) and a further refinement for a quartic approximation of the kernel function described by Rodden, Taylor and McIntosh Jr. in 1998 (Reference [24]). Applications are made to a number of planar and non-planar configurations. Influence of box and wing aspect ratios are presented in different ways. All the examples used to validate the computer program are taken from papers and Reference [23]. The paper is mainly intended to present the results of the actual work and compare them with those results which are considered as reference results. However, it was not possible to avoid treating, although in a concise way, the theory beyond the Doublet-Lattice Method. Thus, the actual chapter contains a short introduction to the algorithm of DLM where the most mathematical approaches are left to the references (Section 5.1). All the formulas used here are to be considered essential for the following section, 5.2, dealing with results and comparisons.

5.1 The Doublet-Lattice Method

The flow singularities used to model the lifting surface are steady horseshoe vortices and oscillatory doublets along the bound vortex. At zero frequency, the doublet line corresponds to the horseshoe vortex. The vortices represent the steady-flow effects and the doublets the incremental effects of oscillatory motion. The vortex system can be analyzed exactly while the doublet system can only be approximated. In the subsequent sections, two types of approximation are used. The configuration is modeled by dividing the surface into small trapezoidal elements (boxes) arranged in strips parallel to the free stream. Two edges of the boxes are always parallel to the free stream. To represent steady-flow effect, a horseshoe vortex is placed on each of the boxes in such a way the bound line coincides with the quarter-chord line of the box. To represent the oscillatory increment, a distribution of acceleration potential doublets of uniform strength, which have the steady-flow doublet strength subtracted, is superimposed on the bound vortex. The surface boundary condition is applied at the control point of each box, centered spanwise on the three-quarter line of the box (Figure 5.1).

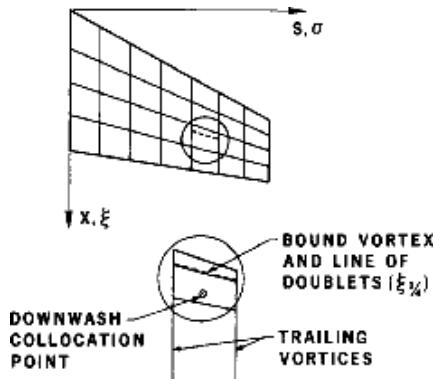


Figure 5.1: Surface idealization into boxes.

The linearized formulation of the oscillatory, subsonic, lifting surface theory relates the total dimensionless normalwash, w , at the surface to the lifting pressure coefficient, $p = (p_{lower} - p_{upper})/q$, across the surface. In matrix notation

$$\{w\} = [D] \{p\} \quad (5.1)$$

where D is the normalwash factor from the combined effects of the steady vortices and the oscillatory doublets.

The influences of all vortices and doublets, indexed by the subscript s (for sending), are summed for each control point, indexed by the subscript r (for receiving), to get

$$w_r = \sum_s D_{rs} p_s \quad (5.2)$$

where $D_{rs} = D_{0rs} + D_{1rs} + D_{2rs}$ is the sum of the steady normalwash factor, D_{0rs} , and the incremental oscillatory normalwash, divided for convenience in the planar, D_{1rs} , and non-planar term, D_{2rs} .

By transforming the coordinate system to the midpoint of the sending line and align it

with the plane of the sending box (see Figure 5.2: local ξ -axis is aligned with the free stream, local ζ -axis is normal to the surface box and local η -axis from right-hand rule.), the normalwash factors appear as

$$D_{0rs} = \frac{\Delta x_s}{8\pi} \int_{-e}^{+e} \left(\frac{K_{10}T_1}{r_1^2} + \frac{K_{20}T_2^*}{r_1^4} \right) d\bar{\eta} \quad (5.3)$$

$$D_{1rs} = \frac{\Delta x_s}{8\pi} \int_{-e}^{+e} \left(\frac{(K_1 \exp[-i\omega(\bar{x} - \bar{\eta} \tan(\lambda_s)) / U] - K_{10}) T_1}{r_1^2} \right) d\bar{\eta} \quad (5.4)$$

$$D_{2rs} = \frac{\Delta x_s}{8\pi} \int_{-e}^{+e} \left(\frac{(K_2 \exp[-i\omega(\bar{x} - \bar{\eta} \tan(\lambda_s)) / U] - K_{20}) T_2^*}{r_1^4} \right) d\bar{\eta} \quad (5.5)$$

where the bar denotes the local coordinates at the sending box, ω is the frequency, U is the free stream velocity, Δx_s is the chord of the sending box, λ_s is the sweep angle of its quarter-chord and e is its semiwidth. Moreover the following parameters are part of the

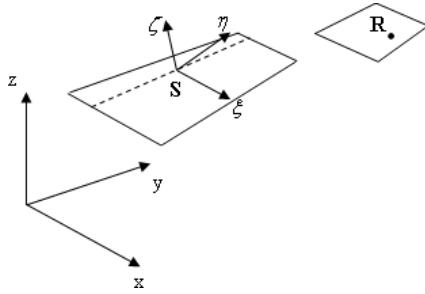


Figure 5.2: Local coordinate system at the sending box (S).

integrand functions in Equations 5.3 through 5.5:
the cylindrical radius from sending doublet

$$r_1 = \left((\bar{y} - \bar{\eta})^2 + \bar{z}^2 \right)^{1/2} \quad (5.6)$$

Rodemich direction cosine function (Reference [25]) are

$$T_1 = \cos(\lambda_s - \lambda_r) \quad (5.7)$$

$$T_2^* = \bar{z} \left(\bar{z} \cos(\lambda_s - \lambda_r) + (\bar{y} - \bar{\eta}) \sin(\lambda_s - \lambda_r) \right) \quad (5.8)$$

where λ_s and λ_r are the dihedral angles at the receiving and sending box, respectively; Landahl forms of the kernel numerator (Reference [26]) are

$$K_1 = -I_1 - \exp(-i k_1 u_1) M r_1 / R (1 + u_1^2)^{1/2} \quad (5.9)$$

$$K_2 = 3 I_2 + i k_1 \exp(-i k_1 u_1) (M r_1 / R)^2 (1 + u_1^2)^{1/2} + \exp(-i k_1 u_1) M r_1 \left((1 + u_1^2) (\beta r_1 / R)^2 + 2 + M r_1 u_1 / R \right) / R (1 + u_1^2)^{3/2} \quad (5.10)$$

$$\beta = (1 - M^2)^{1/2} \quad (5.11)$$

$$R = \left((\bar{x} - \bar{\eta})^2 + (\beta r_1^2) \right)^{1/2} \quad (5.12)$$

$$u_1 = \left(M R - \bar{x} + \bar{\eta} \tan(\lambda_s) \right) / \beta^2 r_1 \quad (5.13)$$

the reduced frequency is

$$k_1 = \omega r_1 / U \quad (5.14)$$

the steady values of K_1 and K_2 , denoted K_{10} and K_{20} are

$$K_{10} = -1 - (\bar{x} - \bar{\eta} \tan(\lambda_s)) / R \quad (5.15)$$

$$K_{20} = 2 + \left(\bar{x} - \bar{\eta} \tan(\lambda_s) \right) \left(2 + (\beta r_1 / R)^2 \right) / R \quad (5.16)$$

and the integrals

$$I_1 = \int_{u_1}^{\infty} (1 + u^2)^{-3/2} \exp(-i k_1 u) du \quad (5.17)$$

$$I_2 = \int_{u_1}^{\infty} (1 + u^2)^{-5/2} \exp(-i k_1 u) du \quad (5.18)$$

are computed using Laschka approximation (Appendix A of Reference [27]).

The boundary conditions of tangential flow are expressed as:

$$\alpha = \frac{\dot{w}}{U} + \frac{dw}{dx} = i k \frac{w}{b} + \frac{dw}{dx} \quad (5.19)$$

where $b = c_r / 2$ is one half of the reference length.

The steady normalwash factor is not calculated from Equation 5.3 but by utilizing the non-planar horseshoe vortex formulas of Hedman (Reference [28]). Instead, the incremental oscillatory normalwash factors are evaluated by approximating the numerators of the formulas 5.4 and 5.5 as described in Section 5.1.1 and 5.1.2.

5.1.1 Quadratic approximation of the kernel function

Expressions 5.4 and 5.5 are rewritten in the following way

$$D_{1rs} = \frac{\Delta x_s}{8\pi} \int_{-e}^{+e} \left(\frac{P_1(\bar{\eta})}{(\bar{y} - \bar{\eta})^2 + \bar{z}^2} \right) d\bar{\eta} \quad (5.20)$$

$$D_{2rs} = \frac{\Delta x_s}{8\pi} \int_{-e}^{+e} \left(\frac{P_2(\bar{\eta})}{((\bar{y} - \bar{\eta})^2 + \bar{z}^2)^2} \right) d\bar{\eta} \quad (5.21)$$

where P_1 and P_2 are intended to be parabolic approximations of the numerator of the kernel function, depending on the local variable η :

$$\begin{aligned} P_1(\bar{\eta}) &= A_1 \bar{\eta}^2 + B_1 \bar{\eta} + C_1 \\ &\approx \left(K_1 \exp(-i \omega (\bar{x} - \bar{\eta} \tan(\lambda_s)) / U) - K_{10} \right) T_1 \end{aligned} \quad (5.22)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
P_2(\bar{\eta}) &= A_2 \bar{\eta}^2 + B_2 \bar{\eta} + C_2 \\
&\approx \left(K_2 \exp\left(-i \omega (\bar{x} - \bar{\eta} \tan(\lambda_s)) / U \right) - K_{20} \right) T_2^* \quad (5.23)
\end{aligned}$$

If the inboard, center and outboard values of $P_1(\bar{\eta})$ are denoted by $P_1(-e)$, $P_1(0)$, $P_1(e)$, respectively, the parabolic coefficients of $P_1(\bar{\eta})$ are

$$A_1 = \left(P_1(-e) - 2P_1(0) + P_1(e) \right) / 2e^2 B_1 = \left(P_1(e) - P_1(-e) \right) / 2C_1 = P_1(0)$$

and, similarly for $P_2(\bar{\eta})$

$$A_2 = \left(P_2(-e) - 2P_2(0) + P_2(e) \right) / 2e^2 B_2 = \left(P_2(e) - P_2(-e) \right) / 2C_2 = P_2(0)$$

Spanwise distribution for each box of the quadratic curve-fitting is shown in Figure [5.3](#) .

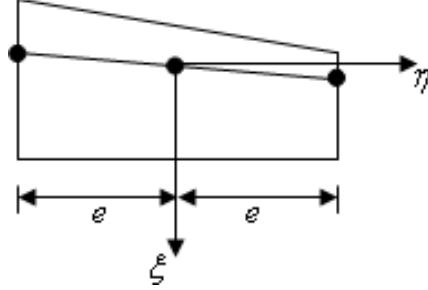


Figure 5.3: Evaluation points for quadratic coefficients.

Planar and Non-planar normalwash factors

Once parabolic coefficients for the approximation of the numerator of the kernel functions in [5.22](#) and [5.23](#) have been computed, planar normalwash factors in [5.20](#) and non-planar normalwash factor in [5.21](#) can be determined using quite long formulas. These formulas are not reported in the present document for convenience, but they can be found, i.e., at pages 4 – 7 and 4 – 8 of Reference [\[27\]](#).

5.1.2 Quartic approximation of the kernel function

Beside the original parabolic approximation, a higher order approximation is used to describe the span wise variation of the numerator of the incremental oscillatory kernel. Again, expressions in [5.4](#) and [5.5](#) are rewritten

$$D_{1rs} = \frac{\Delta x_s}{8\pi} \int_{-e}^{+e} \left(\frac{Q_1(\bar{\eta})}{(\bar{y} - \bar{\eta})^2 + \bar{z}^2} \right) d\bar{\eta} \quad (5.24)$$

$$D_{2rs} = \frac{\Delta x_s}{8\pi} \int_{-e}^{+e} \left(\frac{Q_2(\bar{\eta})}{\left((\bar{y} - \bar{\eta})^2 + \bar{z}^2 \right)^2} \right) d\bar{\eta} \quad (5.25)$$

where Q_1 and Q_2 are intended to be generic quartic polynomials. The following approximations hold

$$\begin{aligned} Q_1(\bar{\eta}) &= A_1 \bar{\eta}^2 + B_1 \bar{\eta} + C_1 + D_1 \bar{\eta}^3 + E_1 \bar{\eta}^4 \\ &\approx \left(K_1 \exp\left(-i \omega (\bar{x} - \bar{\eta} \tan(\lambda_s)) / U \right) - K_{10} \right) T_1 \end{aligned} \quad (5.26)$$

$$\begin{aligned} Q_2(\bar{\eta}) &= A_2 \bar{\eta}^2 + B_2 \bar{\eta} + C_2 + D_2 \bar{\eta}^3 + E_2 \bar{\eta}^4 \\ &\approx \left(K_2 \exp\left(-i \omega (\bar{x} - \bar{\eta} \tan(\lambda_s)) / U \right) - K_{20} \right) T_2^* \end{aligned} \quad (5.27)$$

If the inboard, inboard intermediate, center, outboard intermediate and outboard values of $Q_1(\bar{\eta})$ are denoted by $Q_1(-e)$, $Q_1(-e/2)$, $Q_1(0)$, $Q_1(e/2)$, $Q_1(e)$, respectively, the quartic coefficients of $Q_1(\bar{\eta})$ are

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 &= -1/6 e^2 \left(Q_1(-e) - 16 Q_1(-e/2) + 30 Q_1(0) - 16 Q_1(e) \right) \\ B_1 &= 1/6 e \left(Q_1(-e) - 8 Q_1(-e/2) + 8 Q_1(e/2) - Q_1(e) \right) \\ C_1 &= Q_1(0) \\ D_1 &= -2/3 e^3 \left(Q_1(-e) - 2 Q_1(-e/2) + 6 Q_1(0) - 4 Q_1(e/2) + Q_1(e) \right) \\ E_1 &= 2/3 e^4 \left(Q_1(-e) - 4 Q_1(-e/2) + 6 Q_1(0) - 4 Q_1(e/2) + Q_1(e) \right) \end{aligned}$$

Spanwise distribution for each box of the quartic curve-fitting is shown in Figure 5.4.

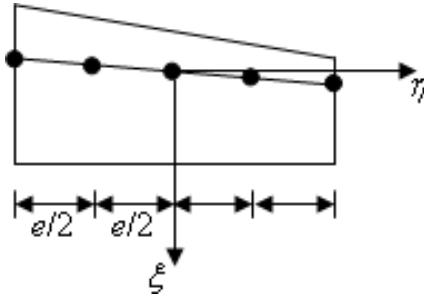


Figure 5.4: Evaluation points for quartic coefficients.

Planar and Non-planar normalwash factors

The quartic coefficients, according to the above equations, are used to express planar and non-planar normalwash factors in Equation 5.4 and 5.5, respectively. Formulas are not reported for convenience but they can be found at pages 722 and 723 of Reference [24].

5.2 Comparison of the present computer program

The developed computer program is tested on several examples, with increasing complexity, in order to validate the present code. Moreover, the use of symmetry is a key point because it permits to reduce a model to one half, the right or the left one. So, it is very important to model correctly the case in which a vertical fin in the symmetry plane is present. Wing geometrical properties and configuration types for all the comparisons are shown in Table 5.1: Moreover, Section 5.2.4 presents a study on the influence of the box

Section	Geometry			Configuration	
	Sweep	Dihedral	Taper	Planar	Non-planar
5.2.1				✓	
5.2.2	✓		✓	✓	
5.2.3	✓		✓	✓	
5.2.4				✓	
5.2.5				✓	
5.2.6	✓				✓
5.2.7	✓	✓			✓
5.2.8	✓			✓	✓

Table 5.1: Model configuration for each section.

aspect ratio on the lift coefficient, while the following section, 5.2.5, outlines the effect of a contemporary increase in the wing and box aspect ratio. The last section, 5.2.8, uses the present computer program to calculate the generalized aerodynamic influence coefficient matrix for an AGARD standard aeroelastic configuration.

In Section 5.2.2, 5.2.3, and 5.2.6 the subsonic stability derivative $C_{L\alpha}$ is computed. According to Reference [23], it is defined in the following way

$$C_{L\alpha} = \left(\frac{b}{h_0^2 k S} \right) \text{Im}(F_z) \quad (5.28)$$

where $b = c_r / 2$ is one half of the reference length; F_z is the force coefficient in z -direction; h_0 represents the plunge motion and in the examples $h_0 = 1$ to represent unitary plunge motion.

Instead, in Section 5.2.7 the subsonic sideslip derivative $C_{Y\beta}$ is calculated. According to Reference [23], it is formulated as

$$C_{Y\beta} = \left(\frac{c_r}{2 y_0^2 k S} \right) \text{Im}(F_y) \quad (5.29)$$

where F_y is the force coefficient in y -direction and y_0 represents the side motion along y -axis; in the example here presented, $y_0 = 1$ to consider unitary side motion along y -axis.

5.2.1 Blairst 2100 Attack Fighter wing

Example taken from Reference [29].

The flat wing has an aspect ratio of 2, no taper, twist and sweep angle. It is divided into 18 boxes, 3 chord wise and 6 span wise. Only the right half span model is considered and pressure coefficient distribution over the 9 boxes is computed applying symmetrical conditions to take into account for the left half span wing which is not modeled. The complete wing configuration is shown in Figure 5.5, while geometrical and flight conditions are specified in Table 5.2.

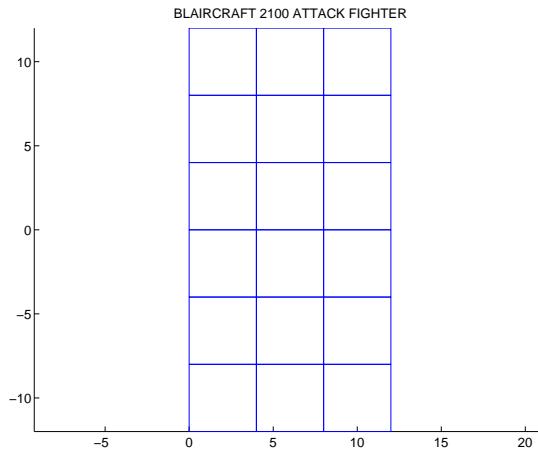


Figure 5.5: Blairst 2100 Attack Figther wing layout.

Geometrical properties		
Symbols	Values	Description
b [m]	12	chord
AR	2	aspect ratio
L_{ref} [m]	6	reference length
S_{ref} [m]	4	reference surface

Flight conditions		
Symbols	Values	Description
M	0.5	Mach number
k	1	reduced frequency

Table 5.2: Data for Blairst 2100 Attack Figther wing.

According to the reference paper, boundary conditions correspond to a plunge with magnitude equal to one (the imaginary part of the boundary condition equation is set to one). Both approximations, quadratic and quartic, have been tested on the right half model considering symmetry and the following results computed (see Table 5.3). Results

obtained by M. Blair are not reported for convenience because pressure coefficient distribution obtained with quadratic approximation is exactly the same of the reference.

	Quadratic approximation	Quartic approximation		
box	$Re(C_P)$	$Im(C_P)$	$Re(C_P)$	$Im(C_P)$
1	-5.4902e-001	+6.2682e+000	-5.6098e-001	+5.7936e+000
2	-3.8862e+000	+2.4495e+000	-3.5519e+000	+2.3119e+000
3	-3.8736e+000	+1.1745e+000	-3.5194e+000	+1.0961e+000
4	-5.9146e-001	+5.8092e+000	-5.9907e-001	+5.3863e+000
5	-3.6405e+000	+2.1530e+000	-3.3429e+000	+2.0434e+000
6	-3.6234e+000	+1.0281e+000	-3.3065e+000	+9.6176e-001
7	-5.8286e-001	+4.5474e+000	-5.8574e-001	+4.2488e+000
8	-2.8983e+000	+1.4663e+000	-2.6908e+000	+1.4079e+000
9	-2.8893e+000	+7.1185e-001	-2.6648e+000	+6.6740e-001

Table 5.3: Pressure coefficient distribution over the right half span model.

Pressure coefficient distribution is shown in Figure 5.6 for the quadratic approximation. Boxes are numbered from the leading edge backwards in row by row outwards (see Figure 5.5).

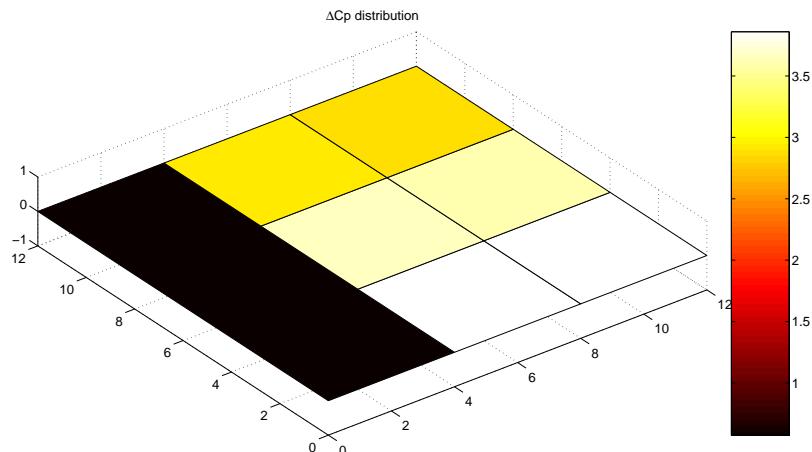


Figure 5.6: Pressure distribution over the right half span wing.

5.2.2 Agard, candidate configuration I.-WING 445.6

Example taken from Reference [30].

The flat wing with 45 degree of sweptback has taper but no dihedral angle and twist. The inboard chord is 0.557784 *in* and the outboard chord 0.368199 *in*, with a span of 0.762 *in*. The wing is mounted in a wind tunnel for flutter tests and thus wall reflection is accounted through the use of symmetry. The wing is divided into 100 boxes, 10 chord wise and 10 span wise. Wing configuration is shown in Figure 5.7. and main parameters are in Table 5.4.

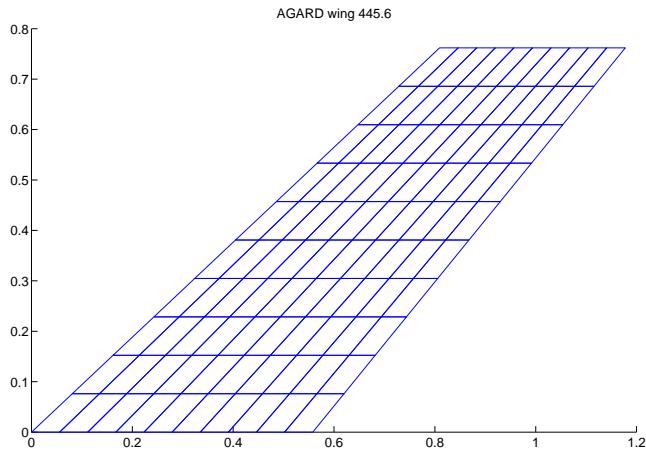


Figure 5.7: AGARD wing 445.6 layout.

Geometrical properties		
Symbols	Values	Description
b_i [in]	0.557784	inboard chord
b_o [in]	0.368199	outboard chord
s [in]	0.762	span
L_{ref} [in]	0.4629915	reference length
S_{ref} [in ²]	0.3528	reference surface
Λ [deg]	45	sweep angle

Flight conditions		
Symbols	Values	Description
M	0.5	Mach number
k	0.0001	reduced frequency

Table 5.4: Data used to compute subsonic derivative for AGARD wing 445.6.

Both approximations are used to compute the subsonic derivative $C_{L\alpha}$, defined previously in Equation 5.28 and results are reported in Table 5.5. Because the paper does not

present this stability derivative, it was estimated using TORNADO. The corresponding pressure coefficient distribution is shown in Figure 5.8. for the quartic approximation.

	TORNADO	Quadratic approximation	Quartic approximation
$C_{L\alpha}$	3.01	3.2392	3.1308

Table 5.5: Subsonic derivative for the rigid AGARD wing 445.6.

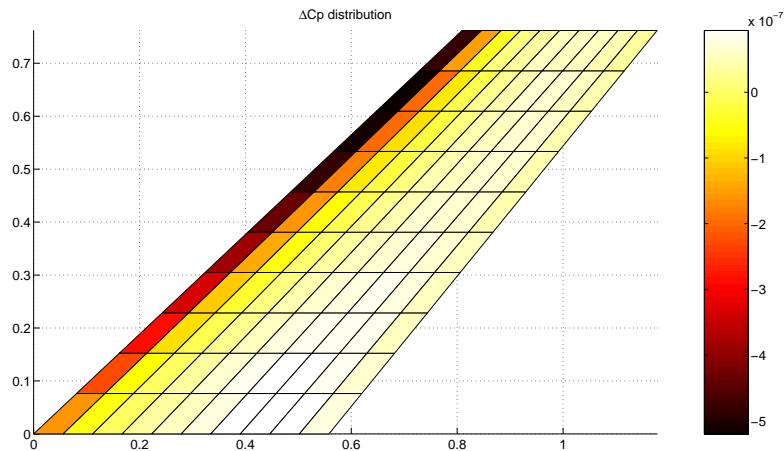


Figure 5.8: Pressure coefficient distribution over the AGARD wing 445.6.

5.2.3 A 15-degrees sweptback wing in a wind tunnel

Example taken from Reference [23], Example HA144C.

The flat wing with 15 deg of sweepback has a constant chord of 2.07055in and a semi span of 5.52510in. It has no taper, twist and dihedral angle. The wing is divided into 24 boxes, 4 chord wise and 6 span wise. The wing is mounted in a wind tunnel for flutter at subsonic speed and wall reflection is taken into account through symmetry. Wing configuration is shown in Figure 5.9 and parameters which have been used in Table 5.6.

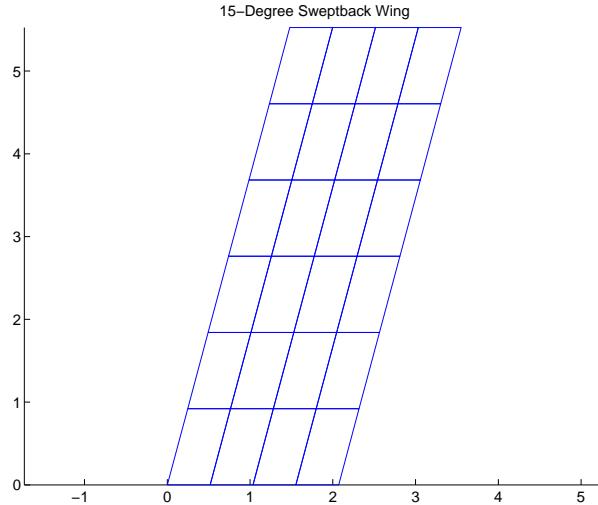


Figure 5.9: A 15-Degree sweptback wing layout.

Geometrical properties		
Symbols	Values	Description
b [in]	2.07055	chord
s [in]	5.52510	span
L_{ref} [in]	2.07055	reference length
S_{ref} [in^2]	11.4399	reference surface
Λ [deg]	15	sweep angle

Flight conditions		
Symbols	Values	Description
M	0.45	Mach number
k	0.0001	reduced frequency

Table 5.6: Data used to compute subsonic derivative for rigid wing.

Boundary conditions correspond to a plunge with deflection mode equal to one ($w = 1$). The subsonic derivative $C_{L\alpha}$ is computed using both methods and the results compared with those presented in the reference, see Table 5.7.

	NASTRAN	TORNADO
$C_{L\alpha}$	4.486	4.1858

	Quadratic approximation	Quartic approximation
$C_{L\alpha}$	4.8058	4.5105

Table 5.7: Subsonic derivative for a rigid 15 degree sweptback wing.

The corresponding pressure coefficient distribution is shown in Figure 5.10 for the quartic approximation.

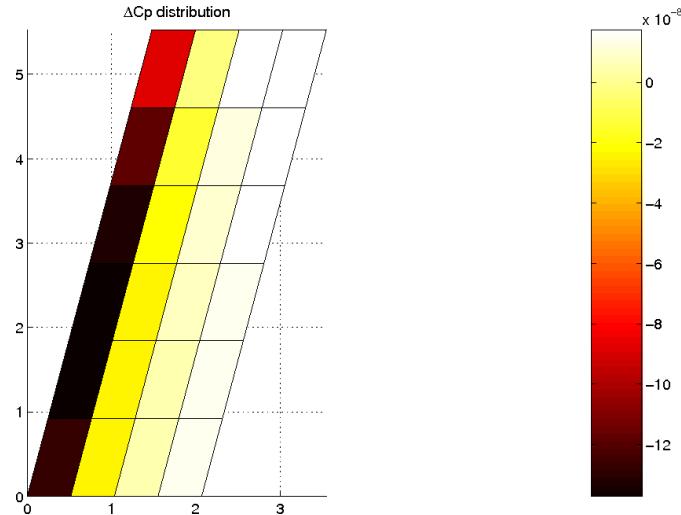


Figure 5.10: Pressure coefficient distribution over the 15 degree sweptback wing.

5.2.4 Rectangular AR=2 wing

Example taken from Reference [31]

The flat rectangular wing has an aspect ratio equal to 2 and it is pitching about its mid chord at subsonic speed ($M = 0.8$). Only the right half span wing is modeled and is divided into 10 equal-width strips and each strip is divided into equal chord boxes from 5 to 50. The box ARs vary from 0.5 to 5. The reduced frequency dependence is also varied from 0.1 to 2.0.

The influence of box ARs on the total lift coefficient is investigated in function of the reduced frequency for a fixed wing AR. Symmetry is used through all the comparisons. In the following, results from the simulations are shown using data reported in Table 5.8.

Geometrical properties		
Symbols	Values	Description
b [m]	1	chord
AR	2	aspect ratio
box AR	0.5, 1.0, 5.0	box aspect ratio
L_{ref} [m]	1	reference length
S_{ref} [m^2]	2	reference surface

Flight conditions		
Symbols	Values	Description
M	0.8	Mach number
k	0.1, 0.5, 1.0, 2.0	reduced frequencies

Table 5.8: Data used to compute total lift coefficients for a rectangular $AR = 2$ wing.

Total lift coefficients have been calculated using both approximations, quadratic and quartic, and these results are compared with the values provided by the authors in the reference paper, using the so-called N5KQ computer program.

Moreover, for each value of box AR the dependence of the total lift coefficient on the reduced frequency is shown because it was seen that the corresponding plot gives a clear indication of the differences between the present computer program and more sophisticated codes.

Rectangular wing, 5 chord wise boxes (box $AR = 0.5$)

The geometric layout of the wing is depicted in Figure 5.11 and the computations of the real and imaginary parts of the total lift coefficient are reported in Figure 5.12(a) and 5.12(b), respectively, as function of the reduced frequency.

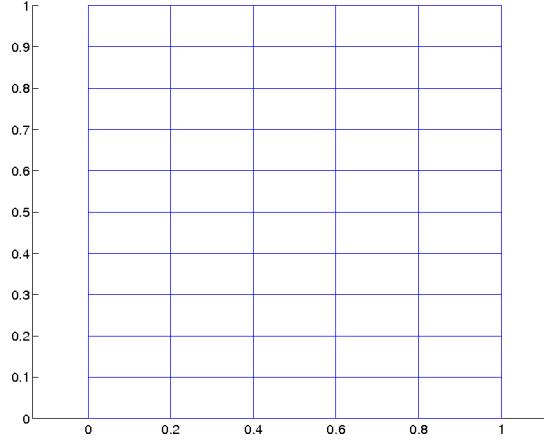


Figure 5.11: Rectangular wing, box $AR = 0.5$.

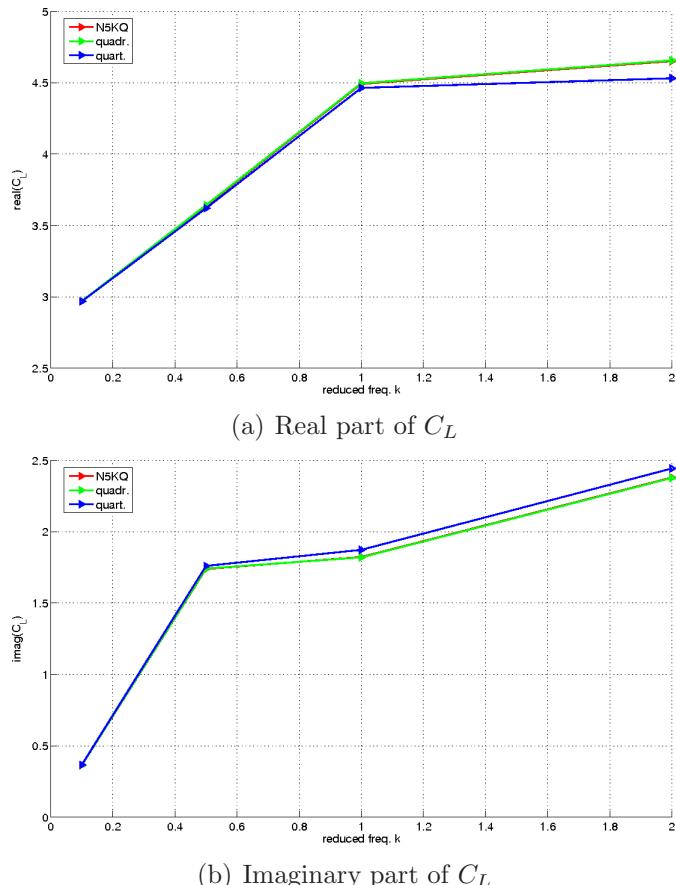


Figure 5.12: Real and imaginary part of the total lift coefficient, box $AR = 0.5$

The pressure distribution of pressure coefficient over the analyzed wing is reported in the following figures, 5.13(a) through 5.14(b), as computed using the quartic approximation.

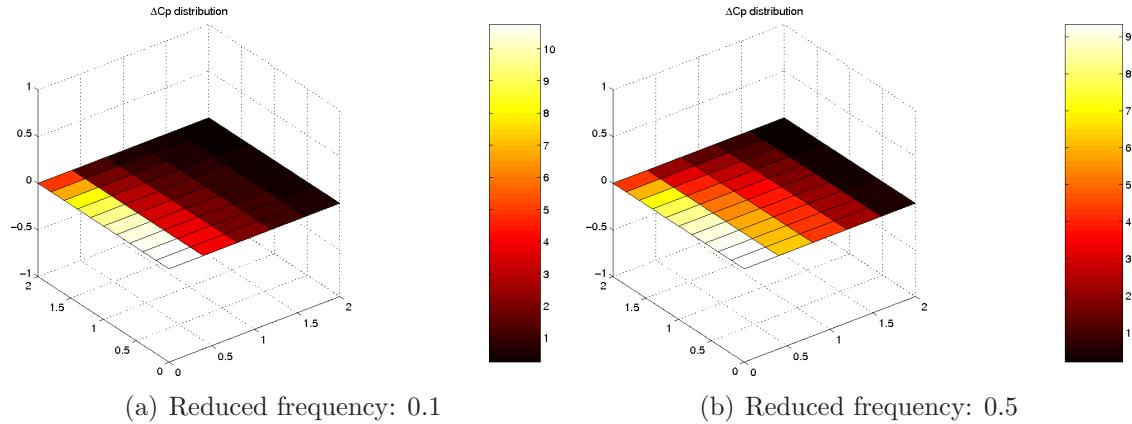


Figure 5.13: Pressure coefficient distribution using quartic approximation.

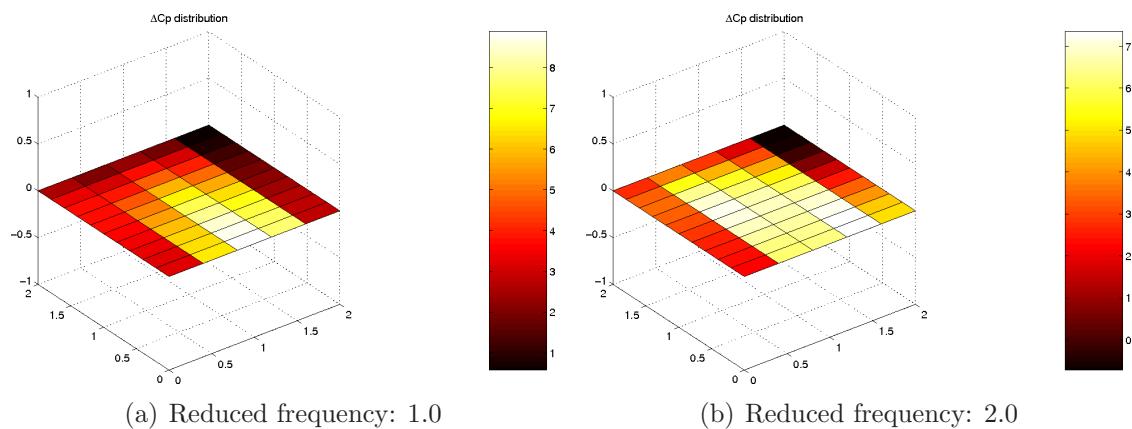


Figure 5.14: Pressure coefficient distribution using quartic approximation.

Rectangular wing, 10 chord wise boxes (box $AR = 1.0$)

The geometric layout of the wing is depicted in Figure 5.15 and the computations of the real and imaginary parts of the total lift coefficient are reported in Figure 5.16(a) and 5.16(b), respectively, as function of the reduced frequency.

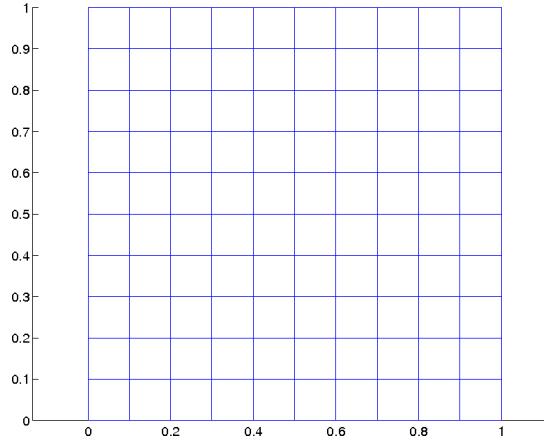
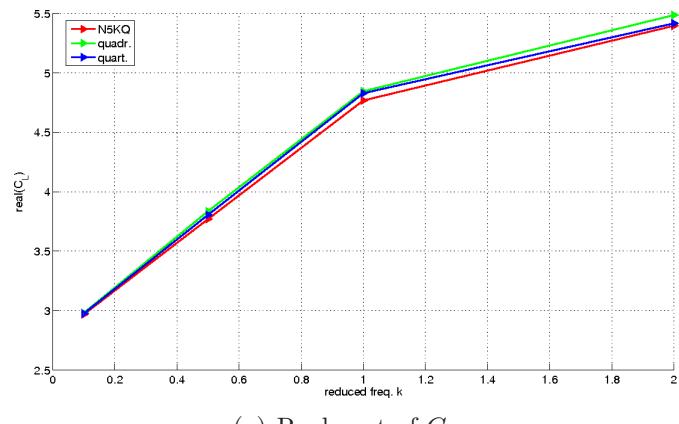
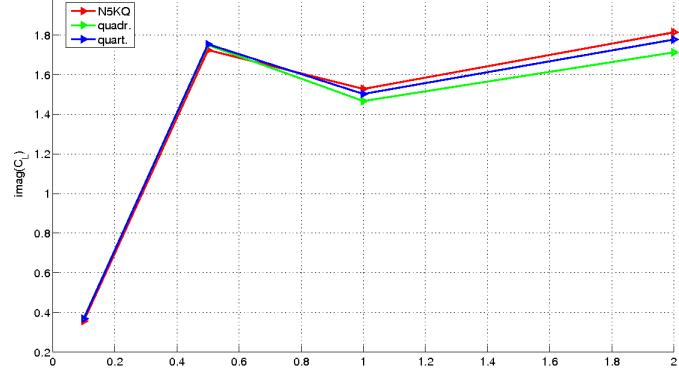


Figure 5.15: Rectangular wing, box $AR = 1.0$.



(a) Real part of C_L



(b) Imaginary part of C_L

Figure 5.16: Real and imaginary part of the total lift coefficient, box $AR = 1.0$

The pressure distribution of pressure coefficient over the analyzed wing is reported in the following figures, 5.17(a) through 5.18(b), as computed using the quartic approximation.

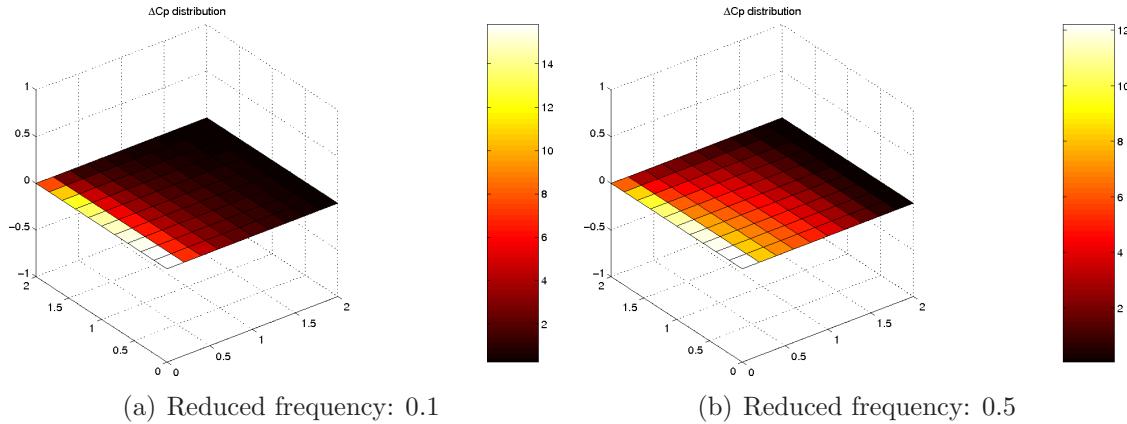


Figure 5.17: Pressure coefficient distribution using quartic approximation.

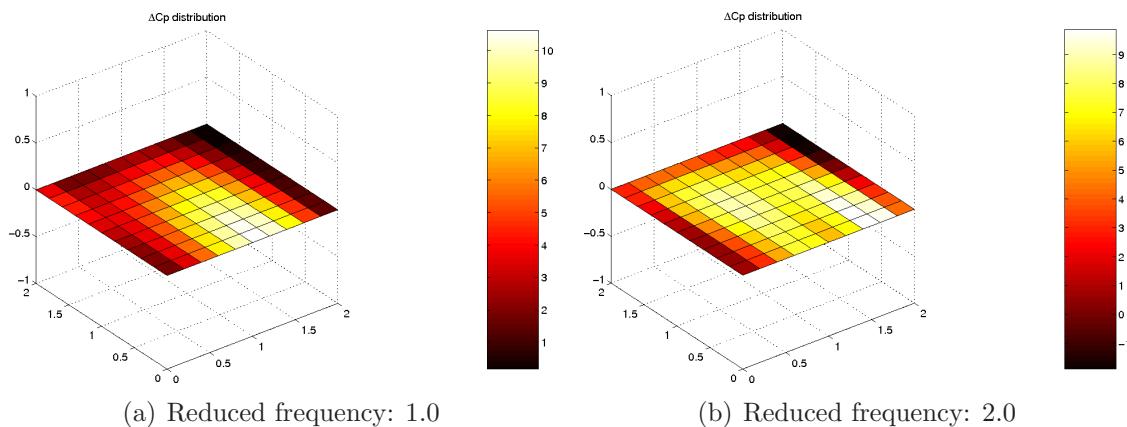


Figure 5.18: Pressure coefficient distribution using quartic approximation.

Rectangular wing, 50 chord wise boxes (box $AR = 5.0$)

The geometric layout of the wing is depicted in Figure 5.19 and the computations of the real and imaginary parts of the total lift coefficient are reported in Figure 5.20(a) and 5.20(b), respectively, as function of the reduced frequency.

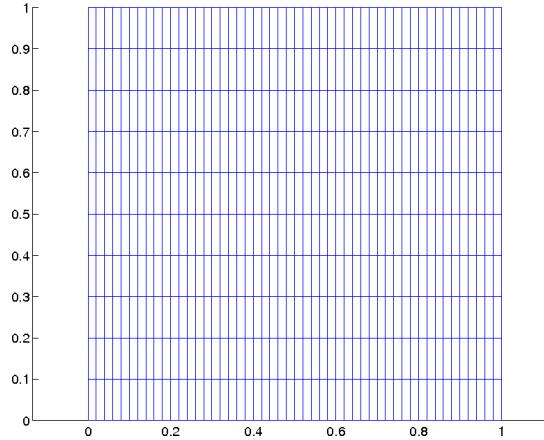


Figure 5.19: Rectangular wing, box $AR = 5.0$.

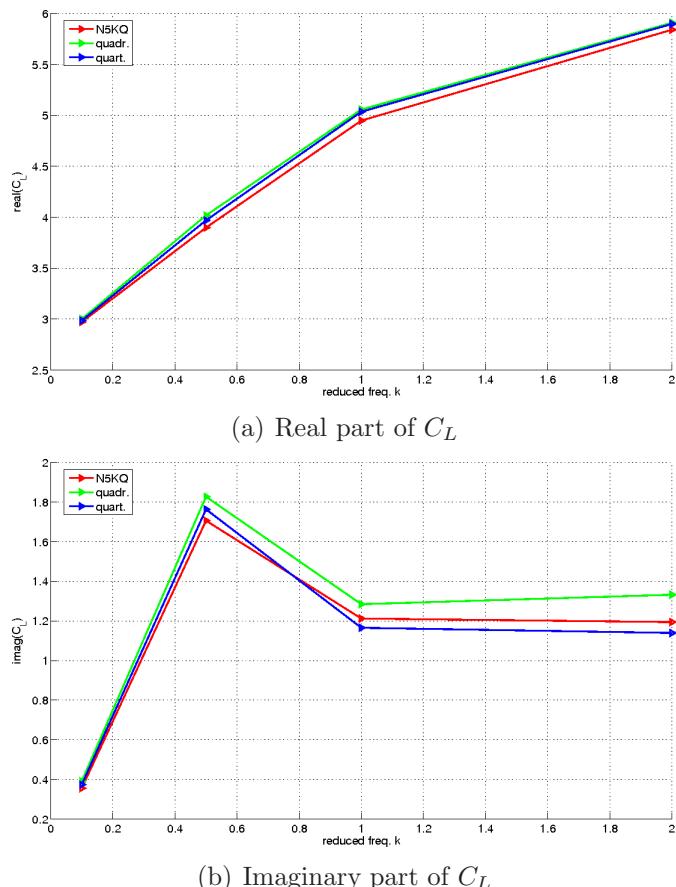


Figure 5.20: Real and imaginary part of the total lift coefficient, box $AR = 5.0$

The pressure distribution of pressure coefficient over the analyzed wing is reported in the following figures, 5.21(a) through 5.22(b), as computed using the quartic approximation.

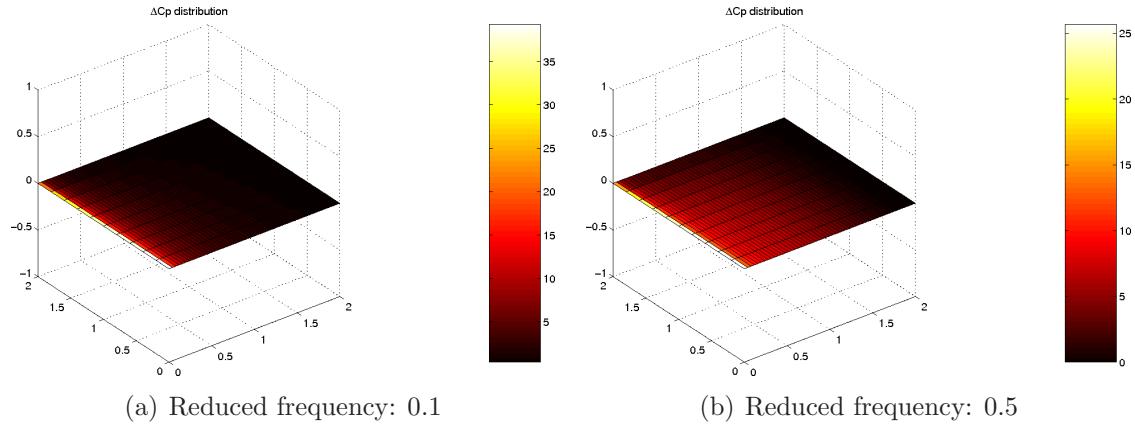


Figure 5.21: Pressure coefficient distribution using quartic approximation.

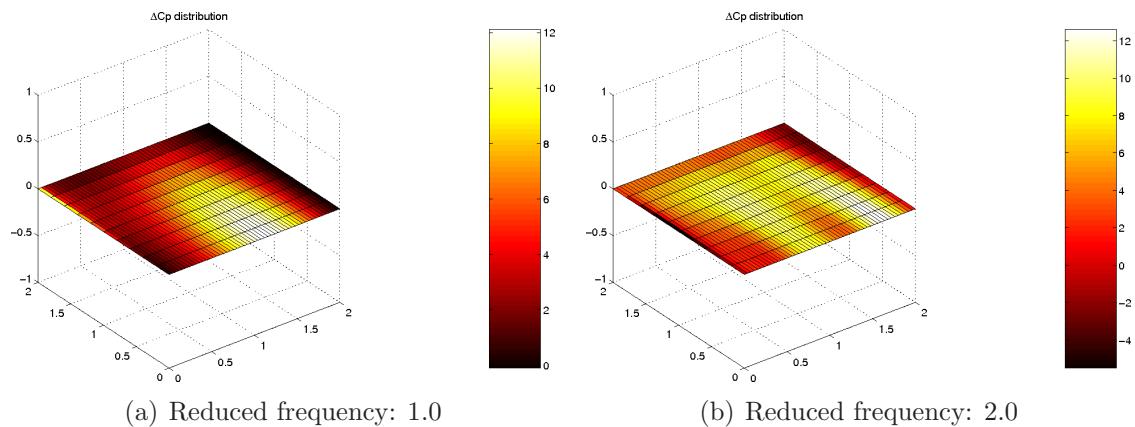


Figure 5.22: Pressure coefficient distribution using quartic approximation.

5.2.5 Rectangular wing, 20 equal-width strips, 20 equal-chord boxes

Example taken from Reference [32]

The second study of the box AR presented in the paper is on rectangular wing, now divided into 20 equal-width strips having 20 equal chord boxes. The box ARs are increased from 1.0 to 5.0 by an increase in the span so that the wing AR varies from 2.0 to 10.0. The same reduced frequencies in Table 5.8 are considered.

Only the right half wing is modeled and symmetry is used. All the results are shown in the following sections.

Rectangular $AR = 2$ wing, box $AR = 1.0$

The geometric layout of the wing is depicted in Figure 5.23 and the computations of the real and imaginary parts of the total lift coefficient are reported in Figure 5.24(a) and 5.24(b), respectively, as function of the reduced frequency.

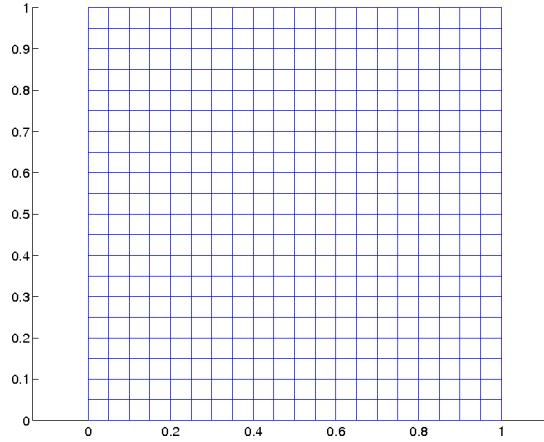


Figure 5.23: Rectangular $AR = 2$ wing, box $AR = 1.0$.

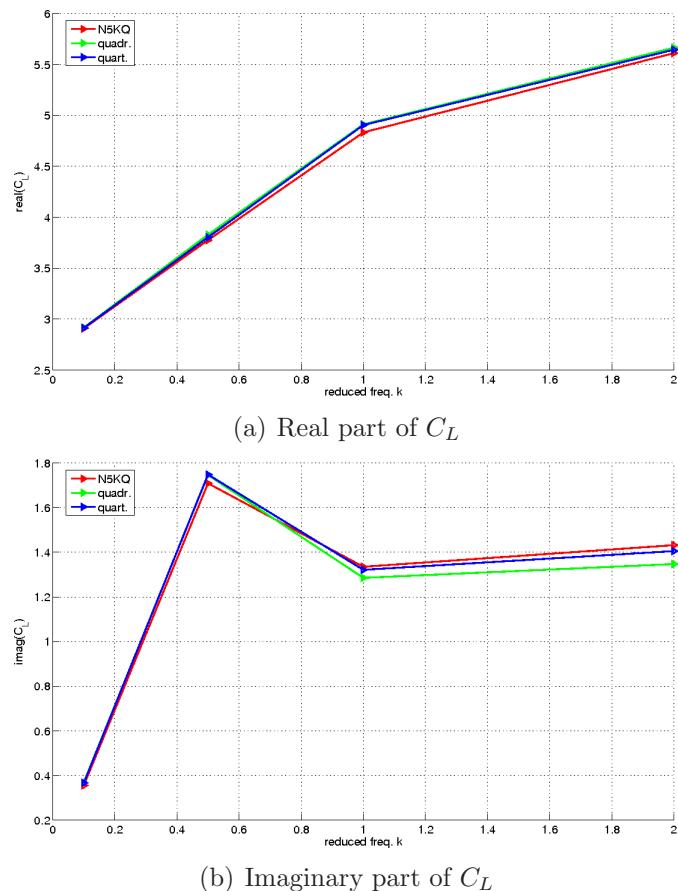


Figure 5.24: Real and imaginary part of the total lift coefficient.

The pressure distribution of pressure coefficient over the analyzed wing is reported in the following figures, 5.25(a) through 5.26(b), as computed using the quartic approximation.

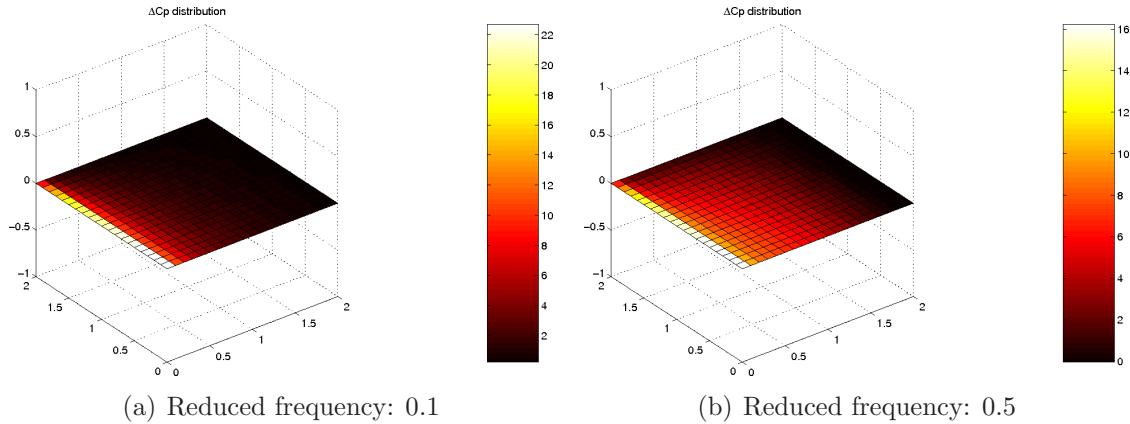


Figure 5.25: Pressure coefficient distribution using quartic approximation.

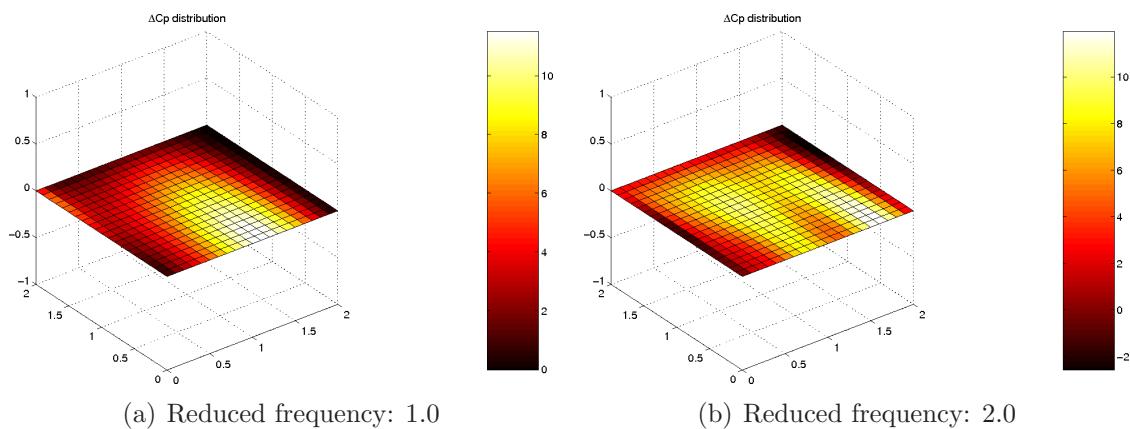


Figure 5.26: Pressure coefficient distribution using quartic approximation.

Rectangular $AR = 4$ wing, box $AR = 2.0$

The geometric layout of the wing is depicted in Figure 5.27 and the computations of the real and imaginary parts of the total lift coefficient are reported in Figure 5.28(a) and 5.28(b), respectively, as function of the reduced frequency.

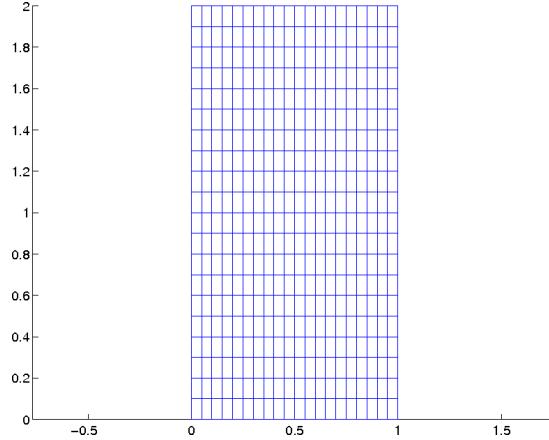
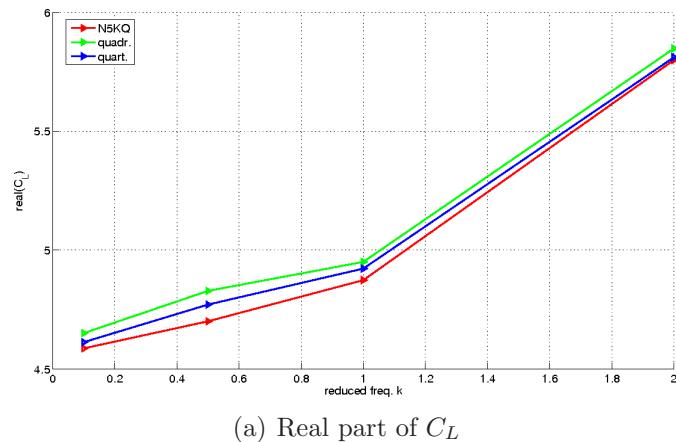
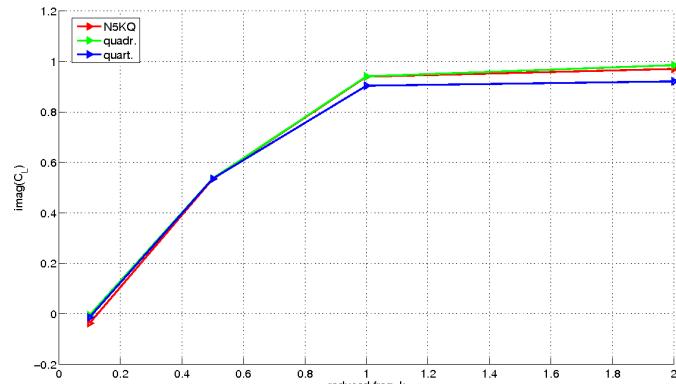


Figure 5.27: Rectangular $AR = 4$ wing, box $AR = 2.0$.



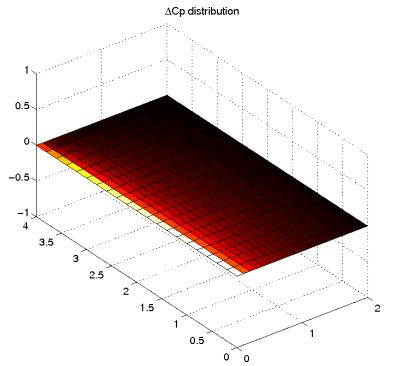
(a) Real part of C_L



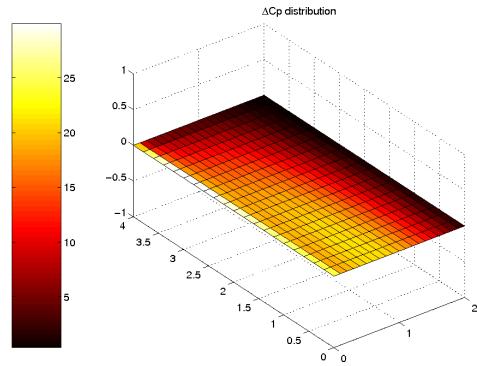
(b) Imaginary part of C_L

Figure 5.28: Real and imaginary part of the total lift coefficient.

The pressure distribution of pressure coefficient over the analyzed wing is reported in the following figures, 5.29(a) through 5.30(b), as computed using the quartic approximation.

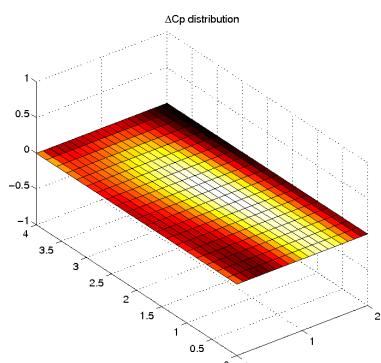


(a) Reduced frequency: 0.1

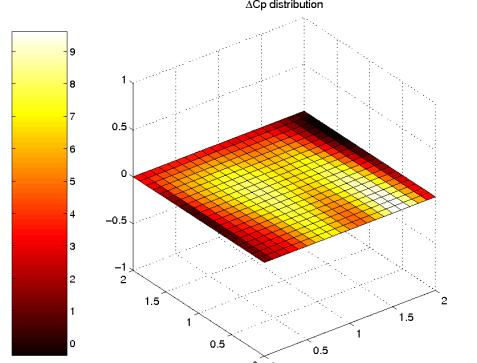


(b) Reduced frequency: 0.5

Figure 5.29: Pressure coefficient distribution using quartic approximation.



(a) Reduced frequency: 1.0



(b) Reduced frequency: 2.0

Figure 5.30: Pressure coefficient distribution using quartic approximation.

Rectangular $AR = 10$ wing, box $AR = 5.0$

The geometric layout of the wing is depicted in Figure 5.31 and the computations of the real and imaginary parts of the total lift coefficient are reported in Figure 5.32(a) and 5.32(b), respectively, as function of the reduced frequency.

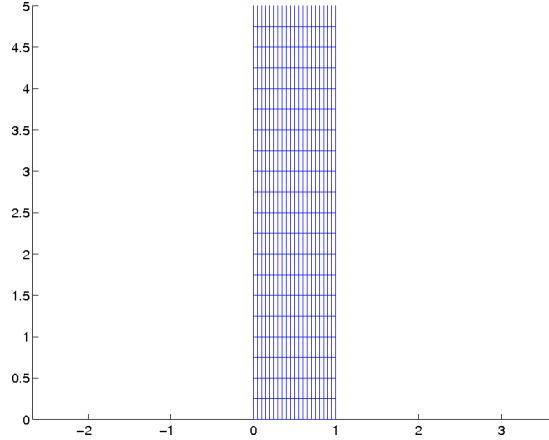
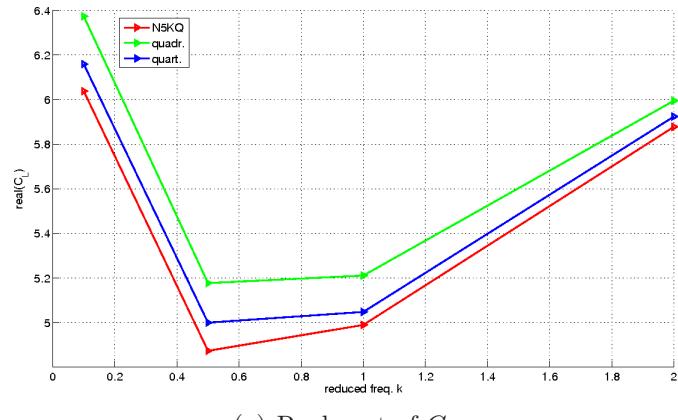
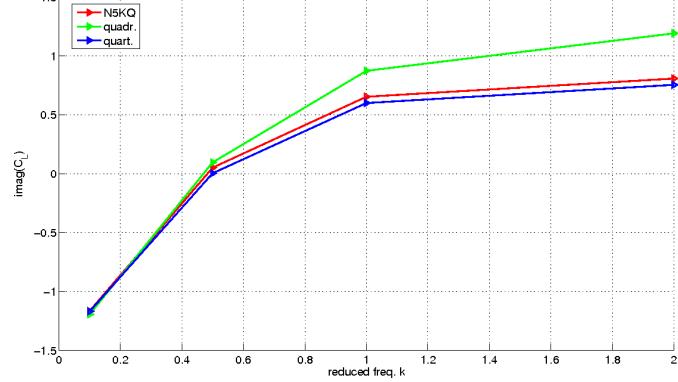


Figure 5.31: Rectangular $AR = 10$ wing, box $AR = 5.0$.



(a) Real part of C_L



(b) Imaginary part of C_L

Figure 5.32: Real and imaginary part of the total lift coefficient.

The pressure distribution of pressure coefficient over the analyzed wing is reported in the following figures, 5.33(a) through 5.34(b), as computed using the quartic approximation.

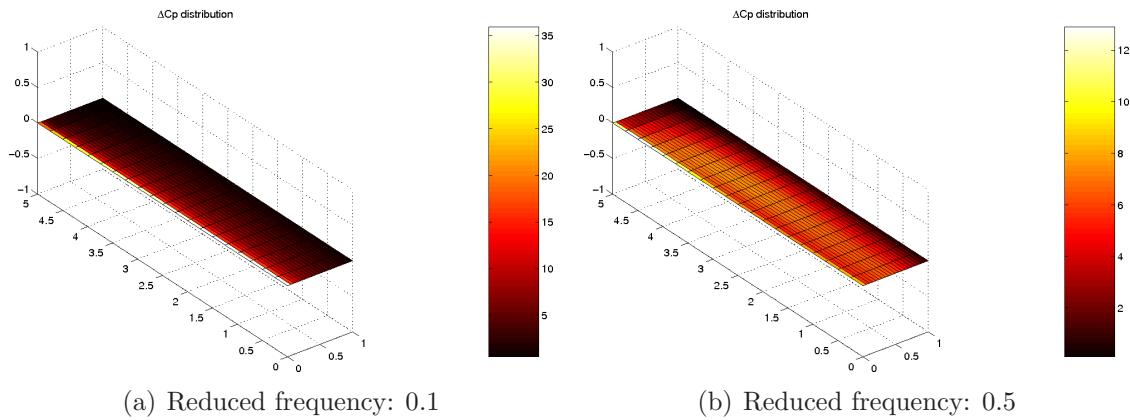


Figure 5.33: Pressure coefficient distribution using quartic approximation.

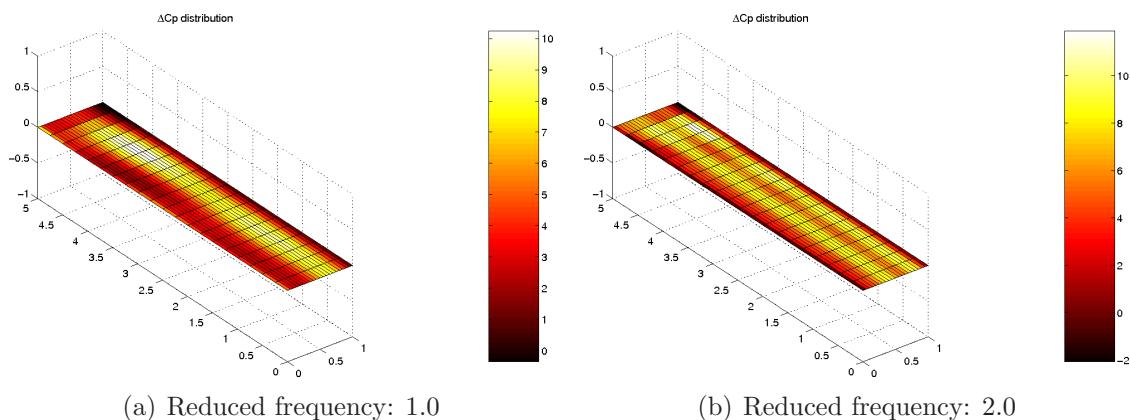


Figure 5.34: Pressure coefficient distribution using quartic approximation.

5.2.6 FSW airplane in level flight

Example taken from Reference [23], Example HA144A

The FSW airplane is shown in Figure 5.35. The wing has an aspect ratio of 4.0, no taper, twist, or camber, but an incidence of 0.1 deg relative to the fuselage, and a forward sweep angle of 30 deg. The canard has an aspect ratio of 1.0, no taper, twist, camber, incidence or sweep. The chords of both the wing and canard are 10.0 ft, the reference chord is chosen as 10 ft and the reference area is 200 ft^2 for the half span model. A subsonic speed ($M = 0.9$) is considered.

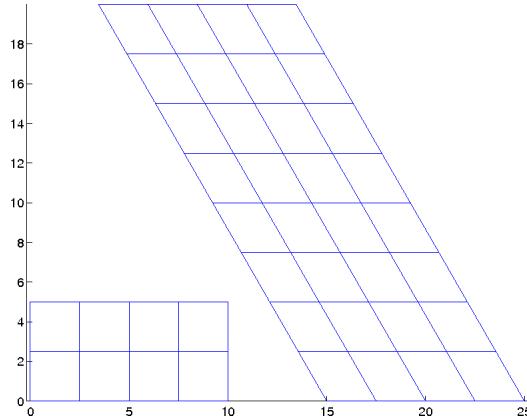


Figure 5.35: FSW airplane: non-planar configuration.

The subsonic derivative $C_{L\alpha}$ is computed and results from simulations are compared with NASTRAN output. Results are reported in Table 5.9. Pressure coefficient distribution for quartic approximation is shown in Figure 5.36.

	NASTRAN	Quadratic approximation	Quartic approximation
$C_{L\alpha}$	5.071	5.0042	5.0699

Table 5.9: Subsonic derivative for FSW airplane.

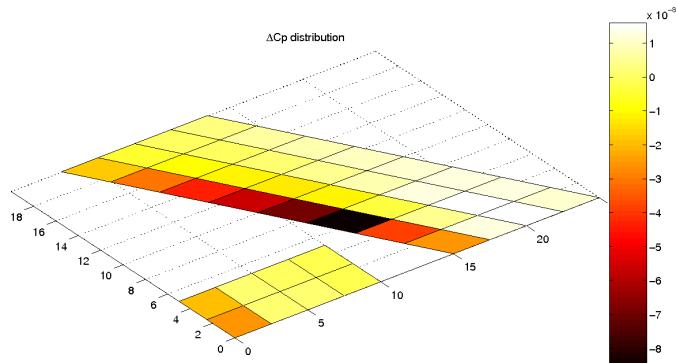


Figure 5.36: Pressure coefficient distribution using quartic approximation.

5.2.7 FSW airplane in antisymmetric maneuvres

Example taken from Reference [23], Example HA144D

The FSW airplane considered in the above section is modified and the lateral- directional derivative is computed. A 30 deg sweepback fin is added. It has no taper, a chord and a span of 10 ft. The half span model is shown in Figure 5.37.

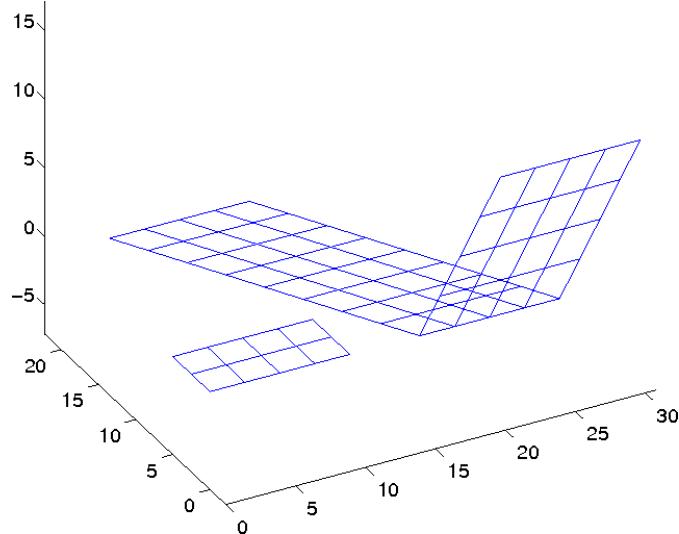


Figure 5.37: FSW airplane: non-planar configuration.

The subsonic derivative $C_{Y\beta}$, as defined in Equation 5.29, is computed for a unitary side motion along y-axis from the complex aerodynamic side force and results are compared with NASTRAN output. They are reported in Table 5.10.

	NASTRAN		Quadratic approximation		Quartic approximation	
k	$Re(F_y)$	$Im(F_y)$	$Re(F_y)$	$Im(F_y)$	$Re(F_y)$	$Im(F_y)$
0.001	1.2752e-005	2.8634e-002	2.3993e-005	2.4246e-002	2.8479e-005	2.3883e-002
0.01	1.2748e-003	2.8634e-001	2.4100e-003	2.4246e-001	2.8465e-003	2.3884e-001
	NASTRAN		Quadratic approximation		Quartic approximation	
k	$C_{Y\beta}$		$C_{Y\beta}$		$C_{Y\beta}$	
0.001	0.7158		0.6061		0.5970	
0.01	0.7158		0.6061		0.5971	

Table 5.10: Subsonic aerodynamic lateral force and lateral-directional derivative

5.2.8 Generalized Influence Matrix

Further, the computer program is used to calculate the generalized aerodynamic influence coefficient (AIC) matrix for the AGARD wing 445.6, already described in Section 5.2.2 and in Reference [23]. The calculations are performed for 2 different Mach number, $M = 0.678$ and $M = 0.96$, and several values of reduced frequency, as shown in the following figures. It must be remarked the latter flight condition is transonic and thus the adoption of the Doublet Lattice Method is a wrong and dangerous choice. The adoption of a linearized potential theory neglects non-linear phenomena associated to viscosity and compressibility which can result in over-predicted flutter dynamic pressures (the so-called transonic dipphenomenon). The AIC matrix is here reported as a mere source of comparison of the present method. For this condition the aerodynamic system needs to be modeled through more complex theories based on Euler or Navier-Stokes equations. The structural modes here considered are the first bending and first torsion mode, at frequencies of 14.1Hz and 50.9Hz, respectively. See Figure 5.38 for a graphical representation of these modes.

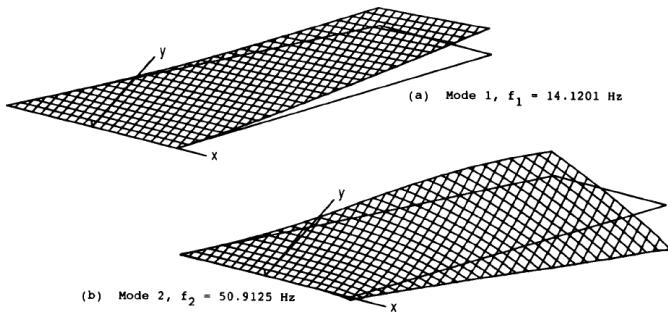


Figure 5.38: First bending and first torsion mode for AGARD 445.6 wing.

The values of the AIC matrix in the subsonic regime, $M = 0.678$, are reported in the Figure 5.39(a) through 5.42(b); the transonic simulations, $M = 0.96$, are instead shown in the Figure 5.43(a) through 5.46(b). Again, both approximations, quadratic and quartic, are used to evaluate numerically the numerator of the kernel function.

A delicate question regards the methods used for the spatial coupling among different discretizations. In aeroelasticity it is a common practice to use different discretization for aerodynamic and structural system. As a matter of fact these models need to transfer data such as displacements, velocities and forces. The algorithm used in the present method is different from the one used in N5KQ which adopts a simple surface-spline. The method used here is based on a Moving Least Square technique which enforces the conservation of the energy exchange between the two different discretizations. This is a delicate question in aeroelasticity because the spatial coupling procedure may numerically alter the stability of the system though a spurious introduction/loss of energy if not treated in the proper way. Further details regarding the present method can be found in Quaranta et al., Reference [9].

The generalized AIC matrix is defined in the discretized form

$$Q_{ik} = \sum_{r=1}^{NP} w_{ri} \Delta p_{ik} S_r \quad (5.30)$$

as the sum over the number of boxes (NP) of the pressure coefficient difference due to the $k - th$ mode times the box surface times the box displacement due to the $i - th$ mode. Moreover, the boundary conditions have been imposed using the following relation

$$\alpha = \frac{\dot{w}}{U} + \frac{dw}{dx} = i k \frac{w}{c_r} + \frac{dw}{dx} \quad (5.31)$$

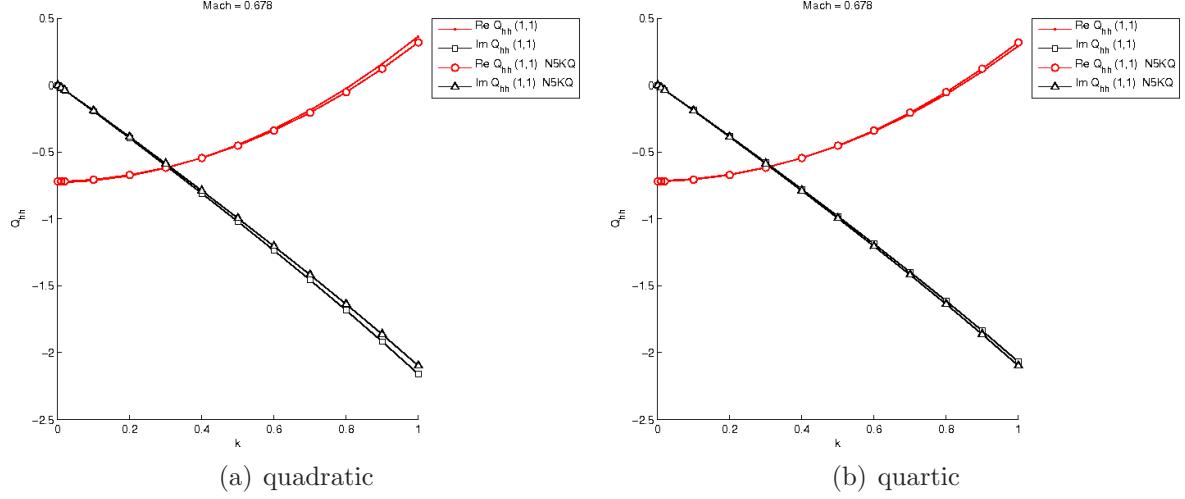


Figure 5.39: Approximation of Q_{11} , $M = 0.678$

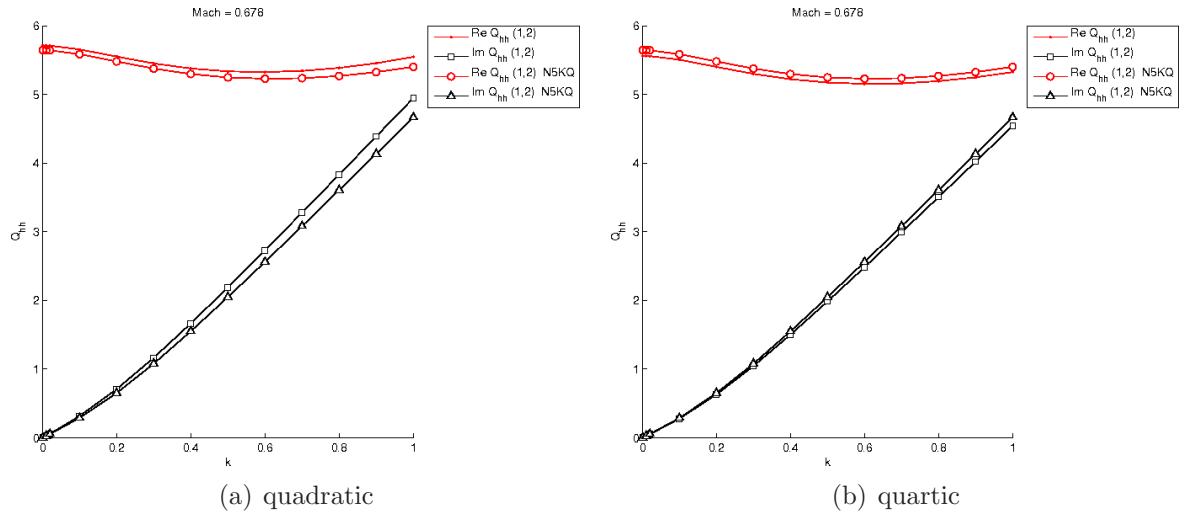


Figure 5.40: Approximation of Q_{12} , $M = 0.678$

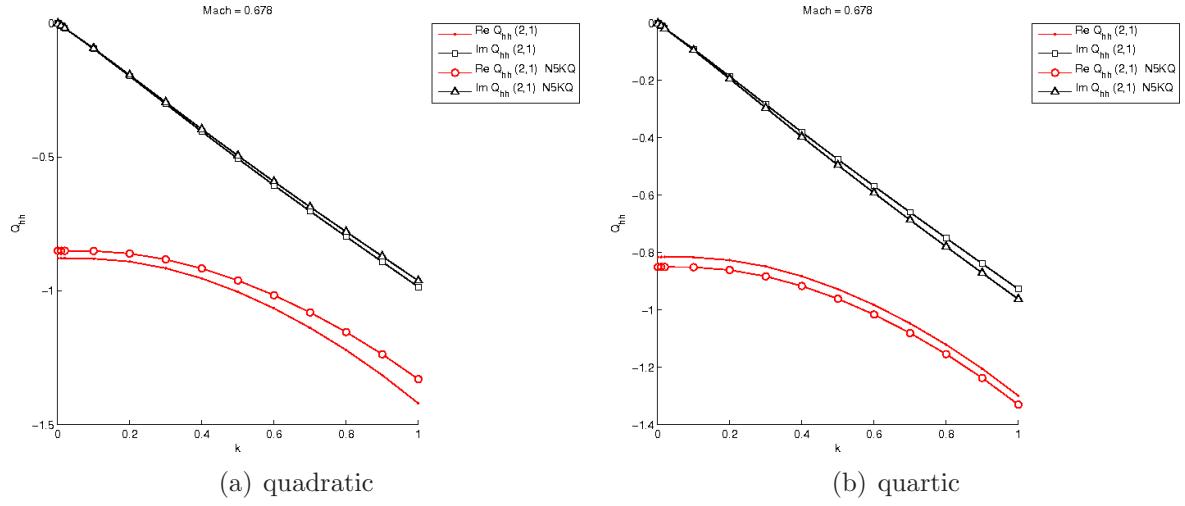


Figure 5.41: Approximation of Q_{21} , $M = 0.678$

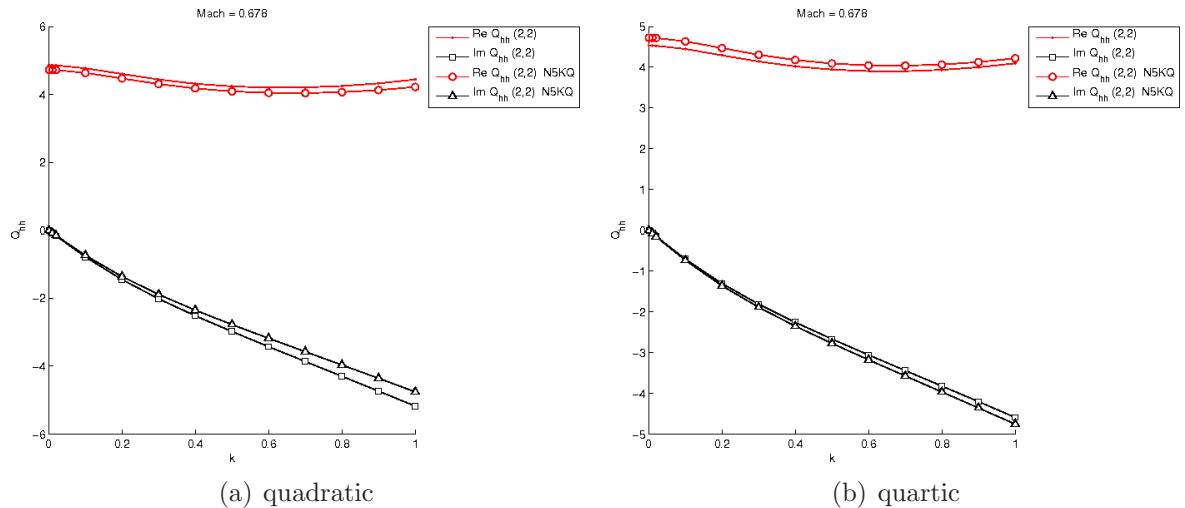


Figure 5.42: Approximation of Q_{22} , $M = 0.678$

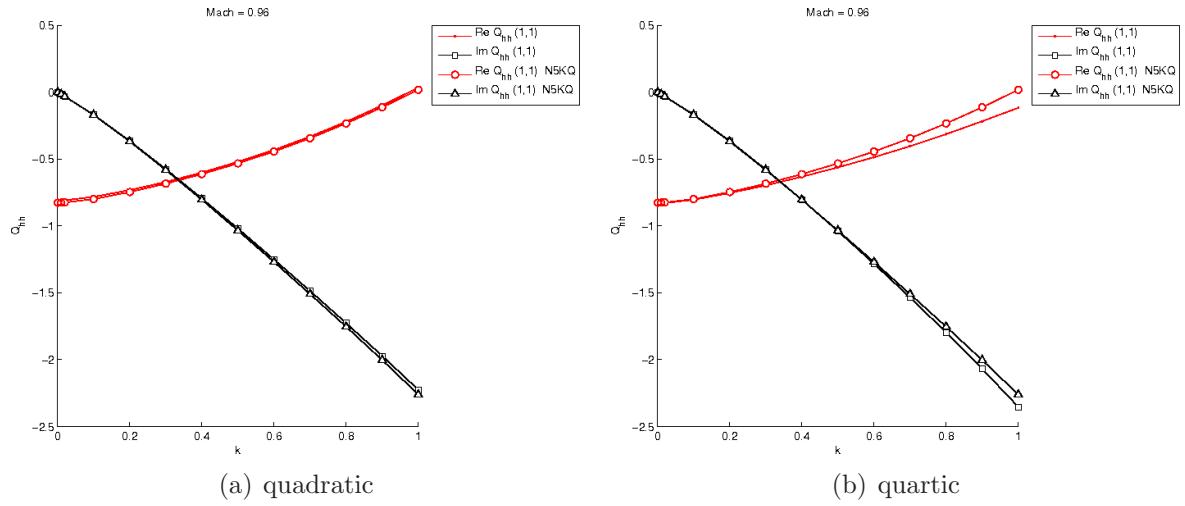


Figure 5.43: Approximation of Q_{11} , $M = 0.96$

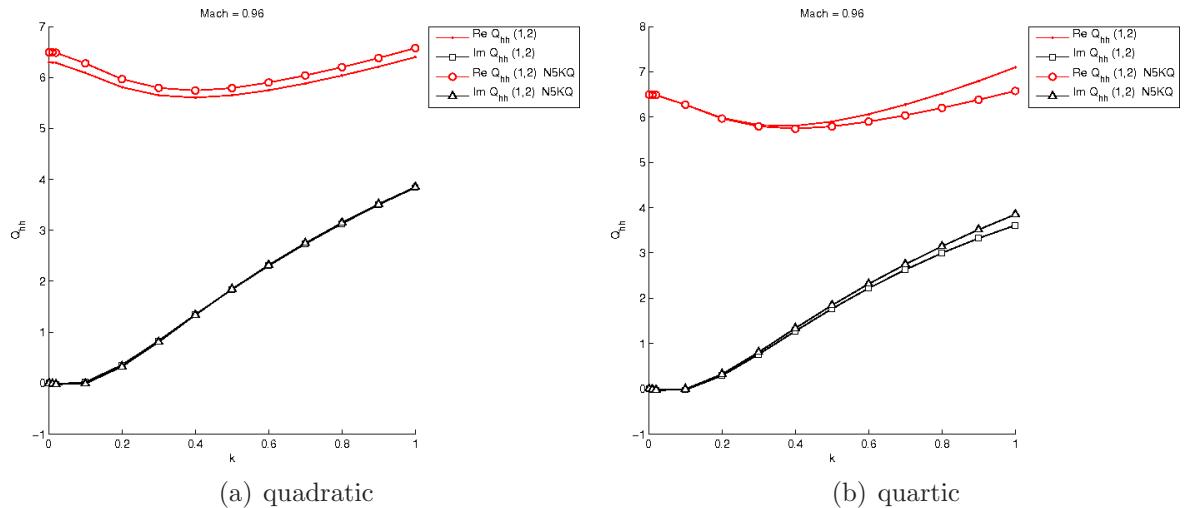


Figure 5.44: Approximation of Q_{12} , $M = 0.96$

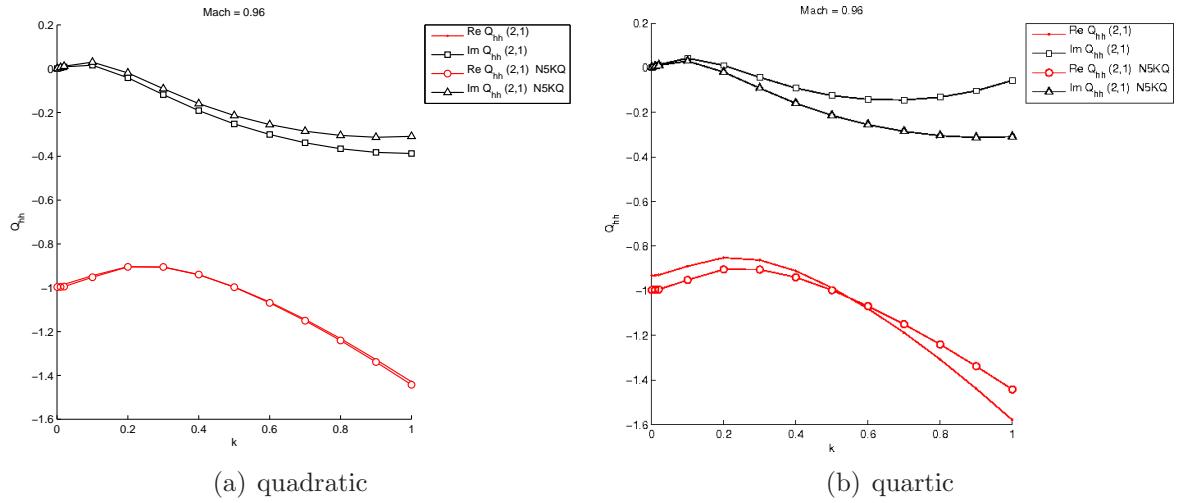


Figure 5.45: Approximation of Q_{21} , $M = 0.96$

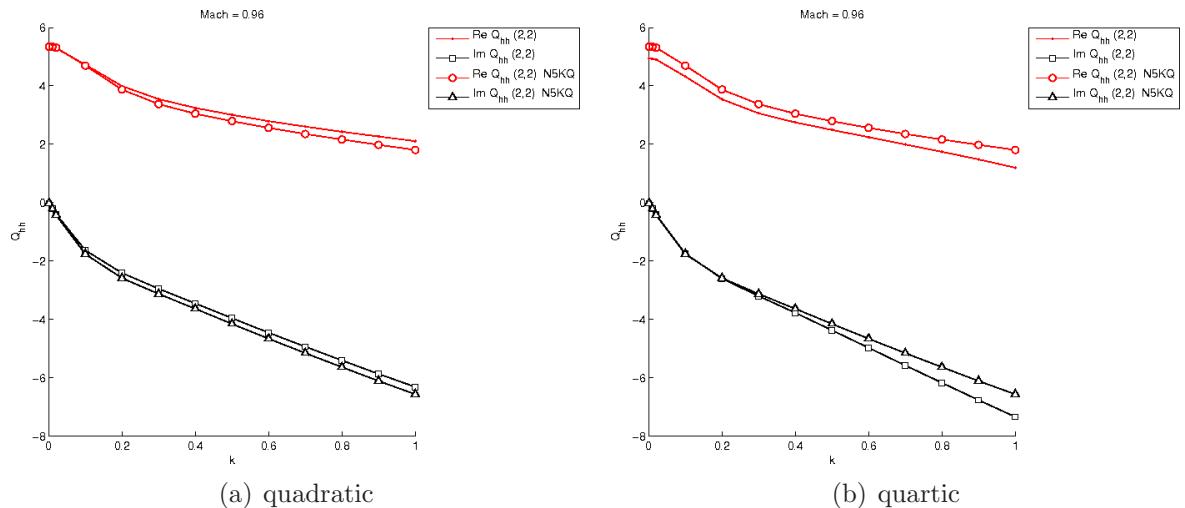


Figure 5.46: Approximation of Q_{22} , $M = 0.96$

Chapter 6

Conclusions

The thesis work has been performed jointly with the 6th European Framework SimSAC for preliminary structural sizing and aeroelastic analysis for fixed-wing aircrafts, giving fundamental contributions for more detailed informations on aircraft desing in the very first preliminary design phases, thus enhancing the process to better understand the static and dynamic behaviour of the aircraft. The two softwares herein presented, written in MATLAB[©] environment, have been tested against several test cases, the results of which presented in conferences and used in papers (Reference [33] and [34]).

The former computer program, called GUESS, has shown to give a better understanding of the aircraft structural synthesis based on foundamental physical basis and not on mere empirical relations. Thus it has been dimostrated that GUESS is a quick structural sizing tool able to deal with uncommon aircraft geometries and giving reliable and high-fidelity estimations of weights and inertia. As the computer code gives a detailed description of the airframe structural layout, GUESS might be used coupled with Multi-Disciplinary Optimisation and Aero-Elastic tools. The given references show the application of the code for different purposes.

The latter computer code, Doublet-Lattice Method (DLM), has been developed to perform fast aerodynamic computations and allow Aero-Elastic analysis.

As a result of this comprehensive research effort, the two major achievements are itemised as such:

1. development and validation of two computer codes, used in the preliminary design phase of aircrafts; the reaserch gave the opportunity to gain a deeper knowledge of either strucral and aerodynamic subjects;
2. a better understanding of the professional skills required by the academy and business worlds, providing additional skills in the pedagogical process.

Appendix A

GUESS input: an introduction to *technology* file

The *technology* .xml file is herein presented in the most user-friendly version to run GUESS simulations. It contains several entries to cover a rather wide range of informations: from material properties definition, loading parameters setup, aero/structural mesh and aerodynamic modelling to the setup of the simulations.

The file has been conceived to be easily understood and modified by the user and it offers a great range of possible options. The *technology* file contains two main sections:

1. `user_input`;
2. `experienced_user_input`.

Although few parameters have been added in the latter section, the GUESS beginner is advised to modify exclusively the entries in the former section, that is `user_input`. The experienced GUESS user, able to understand the meaning of equations involved in the computer program and the overall structure of the code, may further set the values for the entries in the section `experienced_user_input`.

Within each main section, `user_input` and `experienced_user_input`, the parameters are further divided in four subsections, that are

1. `geometry`;
2. `material_property`;
3. `loading`;
4. `analysis_setup`.

In the following pages, the structure of *technology* .xml input file is shown and a brief explanation of the entries is given.

Entry – user_input.geometry.*	Note
beam_model.nwing_inboard beam_model.nwing_midboard beam_model.nwing_outboard beam_model.nwing_carryth beam_model.nfuse beam_model.nvtail_inboard beam_model.nvtail_outboard beam_model.nhtail_inboard beam_model.nhtail_outboard beam_model.nhtail_carryth	beam elements in inboard sector beam elements in midboard sector beam elements in outboard sector beam elements in carrythrough beam elements along fuselage beam elements in inboard sector beam elements in outboard sector beam elements in inboard sector beam elements in outboard sector beam elements in carrythrough
aero_panel.nx.wing_inboard aero_panel.nx.wing_midboard aero_panel.nx.wing_outboard aero_panel.nx.vert_inboard aero_panel.nx.vert_outboard aero_panel.nx.hori_inboard aero_panel.nx.hori_outboard	aero panels in inboard sector aero panels in midboard sector aero panels in outboard sector aero panels in inboard sector aero panels in outboard sector aero panels in inboard sector aero panels in outboard sector
aero_panel.nx.sup_control.wing_inboard aero_panel.nx.sup_control.wing_midboard aero_panel.nx.sup_control.wing_outboard aero_panel.nx.sup_control.vert_inboard aero_panel.nx.sup_control.vert_outboard aero_panel.nx.sup_control.hori_inboard aero_panel.nx.sup_control.hori_outboard	aero panels in inboard sector aero panels in midboard sector aero panels in outboard sector aero panels in inboard sector aero panels in outboard sector aero panels in inboard sector aero panels in outboard sector
aero_panel.ny.wing_inboard aero_panel.ny.wing_midboard aero_panel.ny.wing_outboard aero_panel.ny.vert_inboard aero_panel.ny.vert_outboard aero_panel.ny.hori_inboard aero_panel.ny.hori_outboard	aero panels in inboard sector aero panels in midboard sector aero panels in outboard sector aero panels in inboard sector aero panels in outboard sector aero panels in inboard sector aero panels in outboard sector

Remarks. The properties of the aero/structural mesh are defined in the current subsection. The user shall define the number of beam elements, used in the latter stick model, for all the single components. In addition to the beam elements along fuselage and within the admissible sectors for lifting surfaces (Table 1.4 in Section 1.4), two additional informations have to be defined: the number of beam elements in half the carrythrough structure for wing and horizontal tail.

The aerodynamic model is set by defining the number of chordwise and spanwise aerodynamic panels for all the lifting surfaces sectors. The fields **nx** and **ny** mean chordwise and spanwise, respectively. To account for control surface devices, the user shall set the number of chordwise aerodynamic panels used to discretize the movable surfaces.

Entry – <code>user_input.material_property.*</code>	Note	Unit
<code>wing.kcon</code>	wing structural concept	—
<code>wing.esw</code>	Young's modulus for wing material	[N/m ²]
<code>wing.fcs</code>	ultimate compressive strength of wing	[N/m ²]
<code>wing.dsw</code>	density of the wing material	[kg/m ³]
<code>fus.kcon</code>	fuselage structural concept	—
<code>fus.fts</code>	tensile strength on top/bottom	[N/m ²]
<code>fus.fcs</code>	compressive strength	[N/m ²]
<code>fus.es</code>	Young's modulus for the shell material	[N/m ²]
<code>fus.ef</code>	Young's modulus for the frame material	[N/m ²]
<code>fus.ds</code>	densith of shell material	[kg/m ³]
<code>fus.df</code>	densith of frame material	[kg/m ³]
<code>vtail.kcon</code>	vertical tail structural concept	—
<code>vtail.esw</code>	Young's modulus for vertical tail material	[N/m ²]
<code>vtail.dsw</code>	density of the vertical tail material	[kg/m ³]
<code>vtail.fcs</code>	ultimate compressive strength	[N/m ²]
<code>htail.kcon</code>	horizontal tail structural concept	—
<code>htail.esw</code>	Young's modulus for horizontal tail material	[N/m ²]
<code>htail.dsw</code>	density of the horizontal tail material	[kg/m ³]
<code>htail.fcs</code>	ultimate compressive strength	[N/m ²]

Remarks. The `user_input.material_property` collects some material properties that the user may update. It is possible to define one different structural concept for each component analyzed. Different structural concepts are available within GUESS and they have been introduced in Section 1.6.1 and 1.6.3 for fuselage and lifting surfaces, respectively. Moreover, mechanical properties such as Young's modulus, tensile/compressive strength and density have dedicated entries. It is possible to identify separately different properties for shell and frame.

Entry – <code>user_input.loading.*</code>	Note	Unit
<code>normal_load_factor</code>	normal load factor in $g's$	–
<code>weight_fraction.cman</code>	$MTOW$ weight fraction at maneuver	–
<code>weight_fraction.cbum</code>	$MTOW$ weight fraction at bump	–
<code>weight_fraction.clan</code>	$MTOW$ weight fraction at landing	–
<code>aero_data.Cn_dr</code>	yawing moment coefficient due to rudder	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
<code>aero_data.Cl_dr</code>	rolling moment coefficient due to rudder	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
<code>aero_data.Cn_dw</code>	yawing moment coefficient due to aileron/spilers	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
<code>aero_data.Cl_dw</code>	rolling moment coefficient due to aileron/spilers	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
<code>aero_data.Cn_b</code>	yawing moment coefficient due to sideslip	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
<code>aero_data.Cl_b</code>	rolling moment coefficient due to sideslip	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
<code>aero_data.CY_b</code>	side force coefficient due to sideslip	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
<code>aero_data.CY_dr</code>	side force coefficient due to rudder	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
<code>aero_data.CY_dw</code>	side force coefficient due to aileron/spilers	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
<code>aero_data.L_alpha_s</code>	horizontal tail load due to unit α_s	$[\text{N}/\text{rad}]$
<code>aero_data.M_alpha_s</code>	horizontal pitching moment due to unit α_s	$[\text{Nm}/\text{rad}]$
<code>aero_data.L_delta_e</code>	horizontal tail load due to unit δ_e	$[\text{N}/\text{rad}]$
<code>aero_data.M_delta_e</code>	horizontal pitching moment due to unit δ_e	$[\text{Nm}/\text{rad}]$
<code>aero_data.Lc</code>	horizontal tail load due to unit built-in chamber	$[\text{N}]$
<code>aero_data.Mc</code>	horizontal pitching moment due to unit built-in chamber	$[\text{Nm}]$
<code>aero_data.dM_025dalpah</code>	pitching moment coefficient about 0.25 mac wing	–
<code>aero_data.CL</code>	airplane lift coefficient	–
<code>aero_data.CY_alpha</code>	side force coefficient due to sideslip	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$

Remarks. To setup the load analysis, few parameters need to be defined, such as the normal load factor and the weight fraction of $MTOW$ for different conditions. The user is not intended, at least in the very early stages of the desing process, to fill up all the list of `aero_data`. If no aerodynamic informations are available, the user needs to run the Vortex-Lattice method and a stability and control derivatives program, shortly described in Appendix D; then the aero data will be stored in the current *technology* input file. The user just needs to initialize the following two entris to run *VLM* and stability derivatives calculations:

```
user_input.analysis_setup.vlm_calculation.htail=1
user_input.analysis_setup.vlm_calculation.vtail=1
```

More informations for the analysis setup will follow in the next pages.

Entry – user_input.loading.*	Note	Unit
maximum_deflection. Rudder_limit_deflection	rudder limit deflection	[deg]
maximum_deflection. Elevator_limit_deflection_up	elevator limit deflection up	[deg]
maximum_deflection. Elevator_limit_deflection_down	elevator limit deflection down	[deg]
maximum_deflection. limit_tailplane_deflection_up	tailplane limit deflection up	[deg]
maximum_deflection. limit_tailplane_deflection_down	tailplane limit deflection down	[deg]

Remarks. Solving the trim solution for the tailplane and elevator deflection (described in Section 1.5), one needs to consider feasible solutions respect some physical constrains. The user can set the limit deflections, up and down, that must be fulfilled by the computed trim solution. Moreover the first entry, named Rudder_limit_deflection, is required to define the rudder input deflection for the vertical tail load analysis.

Entry – user_input.analysis_setup.*	Note
pressure_stabilization	1 → pressure is stabilized in cabin else → pressure is not stabilized
lift_distribution	1 → Schrenk load distribution on wing else → trapezoidal distribution
regression.analf regression.analw regression.analh regression.analv	linear → linear regression equation for fuselage else → power-intercept regression equation linear → linear regression equation for wing else → power-intercept regression equation linear → linear regression equation for hor.tail else → power-intercept regression equation linear → linear regression equation for vert.tail else → power-intercept regression equation
beam_model.fuse beam_model.winnr beam_model.vert beam_model.horr beam_model.symmXZ	1 → fuselage is defined in beam model else → it is not defined 1 → wing is defined in beam model else → it is not defined 1 → vertical tail is defined in beam model else → it is not defined 1 → horizontal tail is defined in beam model else → it is not defined 1 → beam model is XZ symmetric else → it is not XZ symmetric

Entry – <code>user_input.analysis_setup.*</code>	Note
<code>vlm_calculation.htail</code>	1 → run VLM for horizontal tail else → do not run VLM
<code>vlm_calculation.vtail</code>	1 → run VLM for vertical tail else → do not run VLM
<code>torsion_stiffness.fus</code>	1 → Bredt formula for torsional constant else → monocoque method
<code>torsion_stiffness.wing</code>	1 → Bredt formula for torsional constant else → monocoque method
<code>torsion_stiffness.vtail</code>	1 → Bredt formula for torsional constant else → monocoque method
<code>torsion_stiffness.htail</code>	1 → Bredt formula for torsional constant else → monocoque method

Remarks. The section `user_input.analysis_setup` contains several options the user can modify according the needs.

`pressure_stabilization` takes into account the fact that pressure differential in passengers compartment may be stabilized or not. As already introduced in Section 1.5.1, pressure loads may relieve stresses on the fuselage if pressure stabilization is chosen as an option (setting the entry `pressure_stabilization=1`).

`lift_distribution` offers the option to compute the load distribution over the lifting surfaces using either Schrenk method or a trapezoidal distribution, as described in Section 1.5.3.

The entry `regression` specifies for all the components eventually defined in the stick model the kind of regression equation to use. Two options are available: a linear regression equation or a power-intercept regression equation (introduced in Section 1.7).

The entry identified with `beam_model` let the user to choose each single component to include in the stick model. The flag set to one includes the correspondent component; and viceversa. It is possible to select all the components, activate the symmetry flag, and deal with the complete model for an aircraft; or to select just a single cantilver wing.

Since several aero data are required to run GUESS, the computer program may compute the necessary informations using a Vortex-Lattice method. In case the user owns more accurate aero data, for instance from time-consuming simulations (reading *CFD*), the correspondent entries may be directly defined and updated by the user.

The entry `torsion_stiffness` offer the option to compute the torsional constant for a multi-cell section (as lifting surfaces are intended to be) using the analytical Bredt formula or the monocoque method. More accurate results are obtained by using the latter option, which supply for more informations as described in the Section ??section??.

Entry – experienced_user_input.geometry.*	Note
guess.wing.inboard	number of nodes in inboard sector
guess.wing.midboard	number of nodes in midboard sector
guess.wing.outboard	number of nodes in outboard sector
guess.fus	number of nodes along fuselage
guess.vert.inboard	number of nodes in inboard sector
guess.vert.outboard	number of nodes in outboard sector
guess.hori.inboard	number of nodes in inboard sector
guess.hori.outboard	number of nodes in outboard sector

Remarks. The section reserved for the experienced user contains first geometric details, named `geometry.guess`. The number of nodes along fuselage lenght and lifting surfaces structural span is required for the structural sizing developed within GUESS . These informations do not define the beam model which is indeed defined in the already discussed entry `user_input.geometry.beam_model`. The current parameters define a detailed mesh model over which GUESS performs the interpolation for the exported stick model. Thus the number of nodes herein considered is greater than the number of beam elements.

Entry – experienced_user_input. material_property.*	Note	Unit
wing.tmgw	minimum gage thickness for the wing	[m]
wing.effw	buckling efficiency of the web	—
wing.effc	buckling efficiency of the covers	—
wing.cf	Shanley's constant for frame bending	—
fus.ckf	frame stiffness coefficient	—
fus.ec	power in approximation equation for for buckling stability	—
fus.kgc	buckling coefficient for component general buckling of stiffener web panel	—
fus.kgw	buckling coefficient for component buckling of web panel	—
fus.tmg	minimum gage thickness for the fuselage	[m]
vtail.tmgw	minimum gage thickness for vertical tail	[m]
htail.tmgw	minimum gage thickness for horizontal tail	[m]

Remarks. The section named `experienced_user_input.material_property` contains few material property parameters, which do not belong to the `user_input` section since they require a deeper knowledge about materials and material manufacturing. The most important of them, common to all the components, is the minimum gage thickness (named `tmg` and `tmgw` for fuselage and lifting surfaces, respectively), defining the lower thickness that is physically significant from a manufacturing point of view.

Entry – experienced_user_input.loading.*	Note	Unit
aero_data.q	do not modify	[N/m ²]
aero_data.V	do not modify	[m/s]
flexibility.dalphas_dnz	fuselage flexibility due to n_z	[rad]
flexibility.dalphas_dLt	fuselage flexibility due to L_t	[rad/N]
flexibility.dalphas_dMt	fuselage flexibility due to M_t	[rad/Nm]

Remarks. In the section `experienced_user_input.loading`, the user is advised not to modify the entry `q`, dynamic pressure, and `V`, speed computed from Mach number and speed of sound at given altitude, because they are related to other parameters defined in the `state.xml` input file. Indeed the entry `flexibility` gathers together the rate of change in angle of attack at horizontal tail due to body flexibility, caused by normal load factor and horizontal tail loads. A pictorial view of these concepts is given in Figure 1.15 and 1.14.

Entry – experienced_user_input.analysis_setup.*	Note
BESTFIT	do not modify
iload	do not modify

Remarks. The last subsection contains two coefficients. The first, named `BESTFIT`, applies for the structural module and might be interpreted as a correction factor. The latter entry, named `iload`, applies for the loads module. These coefficients are not supposed to be modified, either by the beginner or the experienced user.

Appendix B

GUESS input: a very short introduction to *geometry* file

The aero-structural analysis of a new aircraft design covers the interaction of aerodynamics, weight, balance and loads, each of these requiring a peculiar description of the morphology, yet referring to the very same aircraft. In addition, with growing design maturity, the geometric description of the aircraft evolves substantially, offering more and more details. Such a complex multi-disciplinary and multi-fidelity problem calls for a geometric description that is flexible enough to suit all the separate study domains and levels of fidelity, yet remains simple enough to be intuitive to the user and to enable easy optimization and trade study analyzes.

The geometric description is obtained by an appropriate parameterization of the different aircraft components and of their relative positioning. For the wing for example, a two kinks description has been adopted with parameters such as aspect ratio, area, sweeps, dihedrals, twists and airfoil sections.

An aircraft design geometry is fully described in a unique `.xml` file to which all the different analysis module refer. In this `.xml` file appear in a structured way the different parts of the aircraft and the associated parameters.

The choice of the `.xml` format facilitates the sharing of data as well as the expansion of the dataset, i.e. the number of components of the aircraft can be expanded at will and it is possible to introduce new components as well as new parameters, thus enlarging the array of morphologies that can be modeled.

The present appendix collects few entries for the specific application of the semi-wing of a Boeing 747–100 presented in Chapter 3. The overview is purely intended to give a basic insight of the geometric description that have been used for the intended analysis. For conciseness, actual aircraft description by means of `.xml` file generated by CADac (Computer Aided Design Aircraft) are not reported, but it is worthy noting the great flexibility offered by this morphology approach. Already in Section 1.4, it has been shown different fuselage layouts, while in Chapter 4 actual aircraft planform shapes are illustrated, correctly editing the very same entries herein reported in the following pages.

Entry – aircraft.wing.*	Value	Unit
longitudinal_location	17.0891	[m]
area	508.0867	[m ²]
span	59.4667	[m]
spanwise_kink1	1.0	—
spanwise_kink2	1.0	—
taper_kink1	0.2646	—
taper_kink2	0.2646	—
taper_tip	0.2646	—
thickness_root	0.1794	[m]
thickness_kink1	0.078	[m]
thickness_kink2	0.078	[m]
thickness_tip	0.078	[m]
quarter_chord_sweep_inboard	37.17	[deg]
quarter_chord_sweep_midboard	37.17	[deg]
quarter_chord_sweep_outboard	37.17	[deg]
LE_sweep_inboard	40.0896	[deg]
LE_sweep_midboard	40.0896	[deg]
LE_sweep_outboard	40.0896	[deg]
dihedral_inboard	7.00	[deg]
dihedral_midboard	7.00	[deg]
dihedral_outboard	7.00	[deg]
root_incidence	1.00	[deg]
kink1_incidence	1.00	[deg]
kink2_incidence	1.00	[deg]
tip_incidence	1.00	[deg]

Entry – aircraft.fuel.*	Value	Unit
Fore_wing_spar_loc_root	0.088	—
Fore_wing_spar_loc_kik1	0.088	—
Fore_wing_spar_loc_kin2	0.088	—
Fore_wing_spar_loc_tip	0.088	—
Aft_wing_spar_loc_root	0.723	—
Aft_wing_spar_loc_kik1	0.723	—
Aft_wing_spar_loc_kink2	0.723	—
Aft_wing_spar_loc_tip	0.723	—

Entry – aircraft.fuselage.*	Value	Unit
Aftfuse_X_sect_vertical_diameter	6.157	[m]

Entry – aircraft.engines1.*	Value	Unit
Location_engines_nacelles_on_X	14.8927	[m]
Location_engines_nacelles_on_Y	7.1657	[m]
Location_engines_nacelles_on_Z	-0.6952	[m]
nacelle_length	4.572	[m]
Number_of_engines	2	–
d_max	1.8898	[m]

Entry – aircraft.engines2.*	Value	Unit
Location_engines_nacelles_on_X	20.2132	[m]
Location_engines_nacelles_on_Y	13.114	[m]
Location_engines_nacelles_on_Z	0.0295	[m]
nacelle_length	4.572	[m]
Number_of_engines	2	–
d_max	1.8898	[m]

Appendix C

Structural concept coefficients

The structural coefficients for fuselage and lifting surfaces are herein collected for different structural concepts. These parameters are mainly involved in the structural equations discussed in Section 1.6. Each concept has its own characteristic values.

The user defines the structural concept to analyze and GUESS automatically loads from the internal database the values correspondent to the selected concept. It is necessary to set in the *technology* input file, exclusively for the components defined in the stick model later exported in the ASCII format, the following entry for the fuselage

```
user_input.material_property.fuse.kcon
```

and for the wing, vertical and horizontal tail, respectively, the following

```
user_input.material_property.wing.kcon
```

```
user_input.material_property.vtail.kcon
```

```
user_input.material_property.htail.kcon
```

choosing for the first entry one of the seven options shown in Figure C.1, and for the lifting surfaces one of the six options shown in Figure C.3.

Entry kcon	Structural concept
1	Simply stiffened shell, frames, sized for minimum weight in buckling
2	Z-stiffened shell, frames, best buckling
3	Z-stiffened shell, frames, buckling-minimum gage compromise
4	Z-stiffened shell, frames, buckling-pressure compromise
5	Truss-core sandwich, frames, best buckling
6	Truss-core sandwich, no frames, best buckling
7	Truss-core sandwich, no frames, buckling-minimum gage-pressure compromise

Table C.1: Available fuselage structural geometry concepts

Entry kcon	m	ε	K_{mg}	K_p	K_{th}
1	2.000	0.6560	2.463	2.463	0.000
2	2.000	0.9110	2.475	2.475	0.000
3	2.000	0.7600	2.039	1.835	0.000
4	2.000	0.7600	2.628	1.576	0.000
5	2.000	0.6050	4.310	3.965	0.459
6	1.667	0.4423	4.820	3.132	0.405
7	1.667	0.3615	3.413	3.413	0.320

Table C.2: Fuselage structural geometry parameters.

Entry kcon	Covers	Webs
1	Unstiffened	Truss
2	Unstiffened	Unflanged
3	Unstiffened	Z-stiffened
4	Truss	Truss
5	Truss	Unflanged
6	Truss	Z-stiffened

Table C.3: Available lifting surface structural geometry concepts

Entry wing.kcon	ε	e	ε_c	e_c	ε_w	K_{gc}	K_{gw}
1	2.250	0.556	3.620	3.000	0.605	1.000	0.407
2	2.210	0.556	3.620	3.000	0.656	1.000	0.505
3	2.050	0.556	3.620	3.000	0.911	1.000	0.405
4	2.440	0.600	1.108	2.000	0.605	0.546	0.407
5	2.400	0.600	1.108	2.000	0.656	0.546	0.505
6	2.250	0.600	1.108	2.000	0.911	0.546	0.405

Table C.4: Wing structural coefficients and exponents.

Appendix D

Stability and control derivatives program

The stability and control derivatives program included in GUESS can be used to estimate some of the key lateral directional analysis, including stability and control derivatives for use in estimating aircraft characteristics. The code has been adapted and modified on the basis of LDstab code, developed by Joel Grasmeyer, and it is basically an implementation of the DATCOM method, with adjustments to match published B747 data.

The stability and control derivatives program is utilized by GUESS to compute the required derivatives for the vertical tail plane in case no more detailed data can be supplied by the user. More informations about the option GUESS offers are given in Appendix A. The code is initialized with the correspondent aircraft geometry stored in the *geometry.xml* input file and the output collects the computed derivatives. The code has been verified, for a Mach number of 0.25, against the Boeing 747 – 100. The following table contains a comparison of the predicted stability and control derivatives with the flight test derivatives presented in Nelson [35].

Engineering symbol	flight test	computed by GUESS	Unit
CY_β	-0.96	-0.9601	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
Cl_β	-0.221	-0.2210	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
Cn_β	0.150	0.1500	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
CY_{δ_w}	—	0.0000	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
Cl_{δ_w}	0.0461	0.0461	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
Cn_{δ_w}	0.0064	0.0064	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
Cl_{δ_r}	0.175	0.1750	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
CY_{δ_r}	0.007	0.0070	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$
Cn_{δ_r}	-0.109	0.1090	$[\text{rad}^{-1}]$

Appendix E

GUESS output file in ASCII format: one example

```
SOL 145
EIGR    1          0          20          20
        MASS    2050        4

AERO          631.37  8.778   0.85    1    0    1    50

MKAERO1 0.7
        0.0001  0.1    0.2    0.5    0.8    1.0

$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10
Material definition
$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10
MAT1    1          7.37e+10    0.3    2795.717
        4.032e+83.722e+82.584e+8
MAT1    2          7.37e+10    0.3    2795.717
        3.859e+83.859e+82.573e+8
MAT1    3          7.37e+10    0.3    2795.717
        3.859e+83.859e+82.573e+8
MAT1    4          7.37e+10    0.3    2795.717
        3.859e+83.859e+82.573e+8

$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10
Node definition
$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10
GRID    1000    0          0          0    -3.0349  0    0    0
GRID    1001    0          10         0    -1.295   0    0    0
GRID    1002    0          20.0406  0    -1.295   0    0    0
.        .        .        .        .        .        .        .
.        .        .        .        .        .        .        .
.        .        .        .        .        .        .        .
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GRID	2000	0	29.7474	1.85	-1.295	0	0	0
GRID	2001	0	33.1614	3.1234	-1.2218	0	0	0
GRID	2002	0	36.5754	4.3967	-1.1487	0	0	0
.
.
GRID	3000	0	47.0409	0	1.85	0	0	0
GRID	3001	0	48.9245	0	3.2763	0	0	0
GRID	3002	0	50.8081	0	4.7025	0	0	0
.
.
GRID	4000	0	57.8043	0.35256	10	0	0	0
GRID	4001	0	59.3178	1.8126	10	0	0	0
GRID	4002	0	61.1908	3.4958	10	0	0	0
\$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10								
Beam definition								
\$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10								
CBAR	1000	1000	1000	1001	-0.1714	10.0	0.9852	GGG
	0	0	0.0	0.0	1.295	0.0	0.0	1.295
CBAR	1001	1001	1001	1002	0.0	0.0	1.0	GGG
	0	0	0.0	0.0	1.295	0.0	0.0	1.295
CBAR	1002	1002	1002	1003	0.0	0.0	1.0	GGG
	0	0	0.0	0.0	1.295	0.0	0.0	1.295
CBAR	1003	1003	1003	1004	0.0	0.0	1.0	GGG
	0	0	0.0	0.0	1.295	0.0	0.0	1.295
.
.
.
CBAR	2000	2000	1003	2000	0.0	0.0	1.0	GGG
CBAR	2001	2001	2000	2001	-0.01880	-0.007010	0.9998	GGG
CBAR	2002	2002	2001	2002	-0.01880	-0.007010	0.9998	GGG
.
.
.
CBAR	3000	3000	1005	3000	-1.0	0.0	0.0	GGG
CBAR	3001	3001	3000	3001	-0.603660	0.0	0.79724	GGG
CBAR	3002	3002	3001	3002	-0.603660	0.0	0.79724	GGG
.
.
.
CBAR	4000	4000	3005	4000	0.0	0.0	1.0	GGG
CBAR	4001	4001	4000	4001	0.0	0.0	1.0	GGG
CBAR	4002	4002	4001	4002	0.0	0.0	1.0	GGG

\$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10								
Aeronode definition								
\$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10								
GRID	20000	0	24.7475	0	-1.295	0	0	0
GRID	20001	0	29.7474	0	-2.295	0	0	0
GRID	20002	0	34.7473	0	-1.295	0	0	0
GRID	20003	0	29.7474	0	-0.295030	0	0	0
.
.
.
RBE0	1003	1003	20000	20001	20002	20003		
.
.
.
GRID	30000	0	44.6395	0	1.85	0	0	0
GRID	30001	0	47.0409	-0.705111	1.85	0	0	0
GRID	30002	0	49.4423	0	1.85	0	0	0
GRID	30003	0	47.0409	0.70511	1.85	0	0	0
.
.
.
RBE0	3000	3000	30000	30001	30002	30003		
.
.
.
GRID	40000	0	56.1395	0	10	0	0	0
GRID	40001	0	57.8043	0	9.667	0	0	0
GRID	40002	0	59.4691	0	10	0	0	0
GRID	40003	0	57.8043	0	10.333	0	0	0
.
.
.
RBE0	3005	3005	40000	40001	40002	40003		
.
.
.

\$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10								
Beam properties								
\$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10								
PBAR	1000	1	0.0240180	0.0217450	0.0217450	0.04349	255.8597	
	1.1939	0	0	1.1939	-1.1939	0	0	-1.1939
PBAR	1001	1	0.0403240	0.0719250	0.0719250	0.14385	1059.002	
	1.85	0	0	1.85	-1.85	0	0	-1.85
PBAR	1002	1	0.0769030	0.14264	0.14264	0.28528	1058.982	
	1.85	0	0	1.85	-1.85	0	0	-1.85

PBAR	2000	2	0.33353	0.14149	0.78314	0.30917	6173.783	
	0	2.1854	1.0191	0	0	-2.1854	-1.0191	0
PBAR	2001	2	0.17104	0.0895650.	18399	0.16198	3218.927	
	0	1.4994	0.93863	0	0	-1.4994	-0.938630	
PBAR	2002	2	0.15162	0.0601170.	12346	0.10901	2443.925	
	0	1.3035	0.81593	0	0	-1.3035	-0.815930	
PBAR	2003	2	0.16232	0.0478240.	40295	0.10976	1974.177	
	0	2.6154	0.71199	0	0	-2.6154	-0.711990	

PBAR	3000	3	0.0557710.	35085	0.0155860.	0326230		
	2.3026	0	0	0.67611	-2.3026	0	0	-0.67611
PBAR	3001	3	0.0443680.	0821540.	0095880.	01324431.	3961	
	2.3026	0	0	0.67611	-2.3026	0	0	-0.67611
PBAR	3002	3	0.0340460.	0607360.	0070190.	00925429.	0894	
	2.105	0	0	0.61809	-2.105	0	0	-0.61809
PBAR	3003	3	0.0211080.	0435380.	0050310.	00663429.	2925	
	1.8839	0	0	0.55317	-1.8839	0	0	-0.55317

PBAR	4000	4	0.0265520.	0012760.	0130570.	0015790		
	0	1.2039	0.3358	0	0	-1.2039	-0.3358	0
PBAR	4001	4	0.0237580.	0009240.	0077280.	00106133.	9193	
	0	1.0001	0.30503	0	0	-1.0001	-0.305030	
PBAR	4002	4	0.0185860.	0004660.	0039020.	00053524.	7003	
	0	0.79638	0.24289	0	0	-0.79638	-0.242890	
PBAR	4003	4	0.0121750.	0001730.	0014460.	00019816.	6583	
	0	0.57213	0.1745	0	0	-0.57213	-0.1745	0

\$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10
Lifting surfaces definition

\$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10
CAER01 200 0 0 1 3 n64a206 n64a206 1
21.7478 0 -1.2427 19.9994 1.85 1 0 1 1
CAER01 201 3 0 2 3 n64a206 n64a206 1
21.7478 1.8491 -1.2427 19.9994 2.5504 0.7546 71.3675 1 1
1 0.2 0.2 2 flap1d
CAER01 202 3 0 2 3 n64a206 n64a206 1

	30.5391	4.3952	-1.1092	15.0916	4.1732	0.66128	42.7191	1	1
	1	0.2	0.2	2		flap2d			
CAER01	203	3	0	4	3	n64a206	n64a206	1	
	35.6705	8.5627	-0.890839.9797		13.9234	0.24442	46.9245	1	-2
	1	0.2	0.2	2		ailern1d			
.
.
.
CAER01	300	90	0	2	3	n64a006	n64a006	1	
	41.4	0	1.85	14.1022	2.8525	0.825	55.4158	0	0
	1	0.3	0.3	2		rudder1			
CAER01	301	90	0	3	3	n64a006	n64a006	1	
	46.1544	0	4.7025	11.6344	5.2975	0.60606	55.4158	0	0
	1	0.3	0.3	2		rudder2			
.
.
.

\$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10
 Structural interpolation set

\$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10									
SET1	2	1003	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	20000	
	20001	20002	20003	20004	20005	20006	20007	20008	
	20009	20010	20011	20012	20013	20014	20015	20016	
.	
.	
.	

\$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10
 Interpolation definition

\$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10									
SPLINE2	200	200	1	3	2	2			
SPLINE2	201	201	1	10	2	2			
SPLINE2	202	202	1	10	2	2			
.	
.	
.	

\$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10
 Lumped masses

\$-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10									
CONM2	1	1000	0	752.94830	0	0			
	0	0	0	0	0	0			
CONM2	2	1001	0	1958.1090	0	0			

	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONM2	3	1002	0	2370.2350	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONM2	4	1003	0	2370.2170	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0
.
.
.
CONM2	109	2011	0	17772.943.4367	-2.8876	0.84017
	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONM2	110	2032	0	17772.943.4367	2.8876	0.84017
	0	0	0	0	0	0
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